# West 104th Street

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#### **BLOCK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER**

**OCTOBER 30, 2008** 

**Editor: Nancy Lian** 



Lynn Max attracts Broadway browsers to come to our Yard Sale.



Alex Grannis, with volunteer Karen Hartman, supervises the highly popular Bake Table.

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# At Yard Sale, Good Spirits Banish Poor Weather, For Great Returns

Neighbors, volunteers and vendors banded together to make the 19<sup>th</sup> annual Yard Sale a surprising success despite some uncooperative weather. Originally planned for Saturday, Sept. 27, the fair was postponed until the next day because of threatened storms. Sunday came, and in a textbook example of Murphy's Law, within an hour of the fair's opening, a steady shower started.

Undaunted, block vp Nancy Lian hunkered down under an umbrella and continued selling split-the-pot raffle tickets. The pot eventually reached \$750, and was won by 309's Molly Sherman; lots of patient effort and skillful selling by Barbara Bryan and other board members had brought the pot up to its exciting total in the weeks leading up to the Yard Sale.). Vendors pulled out plastic dropclothes, and grillmaster Jeff Howitt covered up the burgers and hotdogs that were already sizzling. The grill team, including Steve Zirinsky and Ernie Fritz, kept the charcoal glowing while volunteer Ira Gershenhorn hulahooped steadily during the entire hour of rain. Whether or not it was an anti-rain dance—as some speculated by 1pm the showers had stopped. Vendor coordinator Gary Waskow helped the hardy souls who'd stayed fold up their drop clothes, and the fair was going again.

To recruit a crowd, board member Lynn Max donned a sign, grabbed some balloons, and headed to Broadway with Gil Tauber to rope 'em in. Soon visitors were wandering the block, while the classic rock of Foley Road (part of the day's music arranged by Missy Cohen) filled the air with favorite hits. The kids' bake table—the Yard Sale's newest feature—did a brisk business (a whopping \$141.81) as visitors swarmed up for specialties like key lime pie and meltingly sweet chocolate chip cookies. Meantime, on the main bake table Alex Grannis, helped by volunteers Gail Bryce, Karen Hartman, and Hilde Darre, made sure no one with a sweet tooth went hungry.

(Cont'd on p 4)



Halloween Parade. Our neighborhood parade starts on WEA between 102 and 103 Streets at 6 pm, and continues down toward Riverside on 103<sup>rd</sup>, south on Riverside, and east on 102<sup>nd</sup> St. which will be closed to traffic. A photographer will be stationed on Riverside to catch the kids in costume as they come around the corner during the parade. Story telling and refreshments on 102<sup>nd</sup> St. close out the event. Sponsored by the 102<sup>nd</sup> & 103<sup>rd</sup> St. Block Association. Call Stacey Lauren at 212.678.1987 to volunteer to help.

#### West 104<sup>th</sup> Street Block Association 2008 Yard Sale

#### <u>Income</u>

	\$3,131.00
Silent Auction:	1,163.00
Food & Beverage:	747.70
Books:	1,005.50
Bakery (Adult):	566.94
Bakery (Kid):	141.81
What-A-Bargain:	556.00
Raffle (Gross)	750.00
T-Shirts:	130.75

#### **TOTAL INCOME** \$8,192.70

#### Expenses

Musical Equipment Rental:	\$ 753.21
Entertainers:	750.00
Balloons:	141.43
Food & Beverage:	640.40
Call-A-Head:	195.07
Sound Permit:	46.05
Printing & Mailing:	112.50
Raffle payment:	375.00
Miscellaneous:	64.07

TOTAL EXPENSES \$3,077.73

Net Revenue \$5,114.97

If you visit our advertisers, please mention that you saw their ad in our newsletter.

#### Contributors to this issue:

Hedy Campbell, Missy Cohen, Jeff Howitt, Kathleen Hulser, Elly Ledogar, Nancy Lian, Hanna Rubin

#### **Memorial Gathering Nov. 16**

Save the date of Sunday, November 16 at 3 pm (rain or shine) for a dedication of the Sheila Garden Memorial evergreen tree. Sheila was a Block Board member for 15 years from 1991 to 2006, and passed away in January. The tree will already be planted on the middle level of Riverside Park near 104<sup>th</sup> Street. Someone at the southbound bus stop at 104<sup>th</sup> St. and Riverside will direct you to the proper spot beginning at 2:45 pm.

# WEST 104 STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION FINANCIAL REPORT SEPTEMBER 2008

OPENING BALANCE 9/01/08: \$20,586.39

INCOME:

Dues \$855.00 Yard Sale vendors 2,027.00 Raffle ticket sales 719.00 Advertising 549.00

TOTAL INCOME: \$4,150.00 \$4,150.00

**EXPENSES** 

Guard Service 2,590.56
Printing and mailing 244.35
Locker rental 200.00
Yard Sale supplies/services 1,695.59

TOTAL EXPENSES \$4.730.50 \$4,730.50

CLOSING BALANCE 9/31/08 \$20,005.89



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

President VP/Secretary Treasurer Members Hanna Rubin 315 RSD 212.865.4579 Nancy Lian 320 RSD 212.316.6112 Jeff Howitt 315 RSD 212.866.5569 Gina Boonshoft 321 W 104 212.864.1786 Barbara Bryan 905 WEA 212.864.5663 Missy Cohen 320 RSD 212.662.8710 Miriam Duhan 309 W 104 212.866.2791 Teresa Elwert 320 RSD 212.866.4260 Alex Grannis 895 WEA 212.316.1644

Sid Herzfeld 895 WEA 212.749.0085 Joyce/Martin Mann 309 W 104 212.721.6341 Lynn Max 315 RSD 212.666.3129 Gary Waskow 320 RSD 212.932.9082

Steven Zirinsky 315 RSD 212.832.9082

#### **Thank You Volunteers**

The Yard Sale couldn't have happened without the help of our committed volunteers coordinated by Miriam Duhan. We thank you for helping to make the day such a success. If we missed you, we sincerely apologize and hope you will let us know.

Michele Abresh
Gail Bryce
Sarah Conly
Kay Cynamon
Joseph Dearce
Alexis Fakouri

Melissa Abresh
Mary Cargill
Barbara Cowling
Hilde Darre
Michael Deegan
Galine Friant

Ernie Fritz Pauline and Maddy Fritz Ira Gershenhorn Idee Granowitz

Emily Grishman

Karen Hartman

Gwynneth Hotaling

Gary Hughes

Gwynneth Hotaling Gary Hughes
Annie Joffee Terry Jory
Jane Kirby John Krinsky

Adam Osman-Krinsky Maya Osman-Krinsky

Nancy Lager Edvin Lian
Mei Mah Raj Maheshwari
Anna Maheu Jonathan Mehrer

Jeffrey Oeberst Henry Pita Carol Prager Steve Pred Katherine Randall Dev Rogers

Ian Vincent Rosenshine Barbara Rothenberg

Susan Samplilner Daphne and Peter Schwab

Ray Schwartz Jon and Patti Smith
Phyllis Sperling Donna Tapper
Nancy Tarshis Gil Tauber

Tim Taylor Sigurn Temmerer
Armgard von Bardeleben Paul Vukdedaj
Sharon Waskow Ken Weinberg
John Weinberg Robin Wilner

# Board Member Eleanor Ledogar Steps Down

After five years of diligent service, block association board member Eleanor Ledogar is stepping down to devote more time to Amnesty International and other commitments. She brought to the board her considerable experience from the community health care sector and non-profit management. It proved invaluable at a time when the block association needed to retrench. She also diligently investigated concerns about "street furniture" accumulating on our corners, researched city statutes, and lobbied constructively for improvements. In the last three years, she spearheaded a successful outreach effort to the block's brownstones, making sure that every resident received the block's flyers and newsletters, helping to recruit new volunteers and increase residents' involvement. Throughout her time on the board, she offered a wealth of perceptive insights on a range of issues that made the block association more aware of block and neighborhood concerns. We will sorely miss her.





#### **James Perez**

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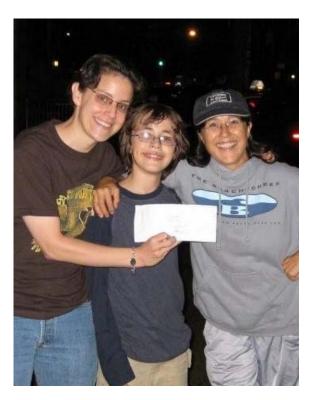
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#### Yard Sale (cont'd from p 1)

Next door, Joyce Mann, with a hand from husband Martin and volunteer Joe Rappaport, kept the business brisk at the What-A-Bargain tables.

The book table, manned by volunteer Michael Deegan, and organized by Gil Tauber, proved a hot spot with a treasure trove of art books, netting more than \$1000. And over at the Silent Auction, a pair of lacey 1940s negligees worn by the mother of 320 RSD resident Lynn Braswell caused a stir, as did two tickets to "Wicked."

By mid-afternoon, glimpses of blue sky lifted everyone's mood, and soon a group of youngsters joined Ira Gershenhorn in an impromptu hoopfest. By the end of the day, the block association had made \$5,114.97 to help pay for the security guard, spring and summer plantings, and more. Thank you board members, neighbors, vendors and volunteers, for hanging in there, and making the day a winner!



Molly Sherman (right) of 309 W 104, the delighted winner of the 50/50 raffle with ticket #890885, is presented with her winnings of \$375 by Missy Cohen. Julia Spring of 885 WEA won second prize of Block t-shirts for her household with ticket #890305.



Yard Sale revelers enjoy Ira Gershenhorn's hula lessons.

#### **Enthusiastic Response to Aging in Place Launch**

Turnout once more exceeded expectations when a group of neighbors, led by David Reich of the West 102-103<sup>rd</sup> Block Association, met on Oct. 16 to discuss moving forward with a local Aging in Place initiative. Grouped in a circle in the Marseille's community room, 23 residents of the six streets covered by the West 102-103<sup>rd</sup> and West 104<sup>th</sup> St. block associations discussed first steps. The meeting's focus was on creating a concrete action plan with those present committing to carry out the needed steps. Ruth-Ellen Simmonds, executive director of the local non-profit Senior One-Stop, and Barbara van Buren of Community Board 7 attended and lent their expert advice.

The group decided to survey the residents of the buildings within the six blocks about the most constructive volunteer services that could be provided. A committee was formed to draft the survey, and another to research the services that similar groups usually offer. These include grocery shopping, accompanying elderly residents to doctors' appointments, and daily check-ins. The research and draft will be presented at a follow-up meeting on Thursday, Nov. 20. If you are interested in being part of the Aging in Place initiative, please come to the meeting or contact Hanna Rubin at hanna.rubin@verizon.net.

#### New York Historical Society offers Civil War Exhibit

A special Civil War exhibit, curated by former block resident Kathleen Hulser, continues until March 29, 2009. The Civil War fascinates Americans because it raises so many unsettled questions from our national past, especially the meanings of race and democracy. Ulysses S. Grant and Robert E. Lee star in this exhibit comparing the relationship between civilians and the military. The show asks difficult questions about the lessons of this history for today. The exhibit extends back to the Mexican War, through the Civil War, and forward to Reconstruction and the wars against western Indians. *Grant and Lee in War and Peace* makes you think about the strengths and limits of the military in our politics and our culture. *Courtesy of Kathleen Hulser, public historian* 

#### **Silent Auction Donors** A Big Thank You!

Below are the many restaurants, stores, and neighbors who donated gift certificates, theater and museum tickets, furniture and more to make the Yard Sale's silent auction a success. Despite challenging weather, the auction raised \$1163 for the block, and we appreciate he generous support that went into making that happen. Thank you, donors!

#### **Stores**

Bank Street Books, Bazaar de La Paz. Book Culture Books, Cardomat, Liberty House, Mugli, Petqua Pet Store, RCI Applicances, Silver Moon Bakery

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Bistro Ten18, Café du Soleil, The Heights,

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#### Selected Calendar of Events

#### 10/31 Halloween Parade.

Soldiers' and Sailors' Monument, 89<sup>th</sup> St. & Riverside Drive, 3:45 pm. Follow bagpipers to the Hippo Playground at 91<sup>st</sup> St. Free cider and donuts. Rain or Shine. Email Hippoplayground @yahoo.com with questions.

10/31 Neighborhood Halloween Parade. 6 pm. See story page 2. 11/1 Amnesty International's 33rd Annual Chamber Music Concert -8 pm. Mannes College of Music, 150 West 85th. Suggested contribution \$18; students \$10. Program includes Beethoven.Brahms, Chopin &selected traditional Chinese music; performers: Mannes students and the Chinese Music Ensemble of New York. 11/4 Shogun Macbeth, by John Briggs adapted from Shakespeare. Pan Asian Repertory Theatre, Julia Miles Theater, 424 W. 55th St. (between 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> Ave.). Tickets \$20 - \$50. For tickets and more information call 212.868.4030. Play continues most nights until 12/7. 11/6 Open Computer time for Children. Morningside Heights

**11/6 Open Computer time for Children.** Morningside Heights Library, 2900 Broadway, 4 pm. For children ages 6 to 12. Call 212.864.2530 for more information.

11/6 Wii want to Game. You want the play the Wii? Play your favorite games like Wii Sports, Super Mario Galaxy and Guitar Hero! Challenge your friends! Host a tournament! For ages 12-18. Bloomingdale Library, 150 W 100 St. 6 pm. Free. Call 212.222.8030 for more information. Repeats 12/4. 11/8 Precollege Philharmonic Orchestra. Jonathan Strasser,

Orchestra. Jonathan Strasser, Conductor. Works by Liszt and Saint-Saens. Manhattan School of Music, John C. Borden Auditorium, 120 Claremont Avenue, 7:30 pm. Free. 11/9 Ragas and Talas, a guide to the classical music of North India. Bloomingdale School of Music, 323 W 108. 3 pm. Free. Call 212.663.6021 for more information.

11/12 Carmina Burana.
Manhattan School of Music
Symphonic Choir, Kent Tritle,
Director. John C. Borden
Auditorium, 120 Claremont
Avenue, 7:30 pm. Free.

11/13 New Amsterdam Symphony Orchestra plays Smetana *The Moldau*, Rachmaninoff *Rhapsody on a theme of Paganini*, Dvorak *Symphony #7*. Peter Norton Symphony Space, 8 pm. Tickets \$15, seniors/students \$8. Call 212.864.5400 to purchase.

11/16 Chagall & the Theater Family Day. Celebrate Chagall and the artists of the Russian Jewish Theater, 1919-1949. Enjoy puppetry, dancing, costumings, and more. The Jewish Museum, 1109 Fifth Avenue. 12-4 pm. Free with museum admission. Call 212.423.3200 for more information.

11/17 Café Jazz. Jazz by candlelight. Manhattan School of Music, Alan M. and Joan Taub Ades Performance Space, 120 Claremont, 8 pm. Free. Café Jazz continues throughout the academic year. Call 917.493.4428 for dates and location.

### 11/18 Acting and Animals: Snakes and the Desert.

Introduction to acting and theatre production through acting games and interactive storytelling. Presented by the Children's Museum of Manhattan. Children ages 3 to 6 with parent or caregiver. Preregistration required, and limited to 25. Bloomingdale Library, 150 W 100<sup>th</sup> St. Call 212.222.8030 for more information.

**11/19 Thanksgiving Crafts.**Morningside Heights Library, 2900 Broadway, 4 pm. For children ages 3 to 5. Call 212.864.2530 for more information.

(cont'd on p. 7)

### Selected Calendar of Events (cont'd from p. 6)

11/24 Bernstein: The Best of All Possible Worlds. Juilliard Orchestra conducted by Alan Gilbert. BERNSTEIN Symphony No. 3 ("Kaddish"), BEETHOVEN Symphony No. 3 in E-flat, Op. 55 ("Eroica"). Avery Fisher Hall at Lincoln Center. Tickets are \$20 & \$10, available now at the Avery Fisher Hall Box Office; CenterCharge: 212.721.6500. Free tickets for students and seniors at the box office.

**12/4 Portraits of the Promised.** Manhattan School of Music Chamber Jazz Ensemble plays Stefon Harris. Miller Recital Hall, 120 Claremont, 7:30 pm. Free, but tickets required. Call 917.493.4428 for information.

**12/5,6,7 Crafts at the Cathedral.** 1047 Amsterdam Ave. 13<sup>th</sup> annual juried crafts fair with more than 60 artisans. 12/5: 5-8 pm, 12/6: 11-6, 12/7: 11-5. Tickets \$6 per day or \$7 for the entire weekend.

**12/10** Later the Same Evening, opera by John Musto, inspired by five Edward Hopper paintings. New York Premiere. Manhattan School of Music, John C. Borden Auditorium. 7:30 pm. Tickets \$20 adults, \$10 seniors and students. Call 917.493.4428 for information.

**12/12** Strange Noises and Sacred Places. John Luther Adams' Music on the Tundra. Percussion. Manhattan School of Music, 122<sup>nd</sup> St. & Broadway. 3 pm. Room 610. Free. Call 917.493.4428 for more information.

**12/14 The Grand Falloons.** Life-sized puppets and folk tales of Isaac Bashevis Singer in the musical production of Village of Fools. The Jewish Museum, 1109 Fifth Avenue. 2 pm. Adults \$15, Children \$10. Call 212.423.3200 for more information.

**12/17** Arts and Crafts. Winter crafts. Morningside Heights Library, 2900 Broadway, 4 pm. For children ages 3 to 5. Call 212.864.2530 for more information.

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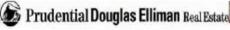
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