West 104th Street

NOVEMBER 2019

BLOCK ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

A World of Books

A neighborhood institution, Book Culture challenges and reassures

By Jeff Howitt



fter entering Book Culture at 536 West 112th Street and climbing to the second floor of this academic and literary bookstore, you wander narrow aisles between towering bookcases and find yourself in civilization's town square. Flanked by fellow browsers, you scan the spines of books that serve both as safe deposit boxes of world cultures and as whetstones for individual minds. In the grip of book lust, you and your cohorts seek knowledge, diversion, enlightenment, power, refuge, adventure, world/time/space travel, and a tunnel to freedom. Secretly, you hope to stumble on a nugget of wisdom that outweighs mountains of data.

Born With An Upper West Side Vibe

Book Culture's roots extend back to the social upheaval of the early 1980s, when idealistic Upper Westsiders hankered for a quest, as well as a bout

continued on page 3

30th Annual Yard Sale Celebrates Community

Block Earns Kudos and a Proclamation to Celebrate Anniversary

By Jeff Howitt



Block association founder Carol Goodfriend joins Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer and block president Steve Zirinsky as the proclamation is read

t the Thirtieth Annual West 104th Street Yard Sale on September 21, three City officials commended the Block Association for its long record of community service. Gale A. Brewer, Manhattan Borough President, delivered a rousing speech and a certificate proclaiming Saturday, September 21, 2019, as "West 104th Street Block Association Appreciation Day." After addressing the Yard Sale crowd, Helen Rosenthal, the local New York City Council Member, presented a certificate celebrating the Block Association's thirty-year record as an "outstanding community partner and an invaluable neighborhood resource." Scott M. Springer, New York

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Contributors to the November Issue:

Barbara Boynton, Caitlin Hawke, Jeff Howitt, Nancy Lian, Hanna Rubin (editor), Larry Stern, Sharon Waskow, Steve Zirinsky. Newsletter designer: Brian Hajjar.



Splitting the Pot

Raffle winner Jane Emery receives a check for \$2495 from block president Steve Zirinsky.



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W 104 ST BLOCK ASSN FINANCIAL REPORT

October 2019

Opening Balance	\$25,960.22
Income	\$6197.00
Dues	1250.00
Co-op Contributions	2000.00
Other	1000.00
Merchandise	462.00
Yard Sale	1485.00
Expenses	2997.73
Guard service	2208.86
Bank Fee	1.55
PayPal	14.82
Merchandise	732.40
Yard Sale	40.00

Closing Balance......\$29,159.49

Holiday Greetings from the Board of Directors

The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to extend our sincere wishes for a happy, joyous, and healthy holiday season. We extend our thanks to you, our residents, who make this community a wonderful place to live.



West 104th Street Bl	ock Associatio	on Board
President Steven Zirinsky	315 RSD	212.866.6732
VP Jeff Howitt	315 RSD	212.866.5569
Treasurer Barbara Boynton	905 WEA	212.864.1011
Secretary Larry Stern	315 RSD	212.794.2288
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Nancy Lian	320 RSD	212.316.6112
Peter Littlewood	320 RSD	612.501.6919
Joyce Mann	309 W 104	212.721.6341
Martin Mann	309 W 104	212.721.6341
Lynn Max	315 RSD	212.666.3129
Hanna Rubin	315 RSD	212.865.4579
Gary Waskow	320 RSD	212.932.9082
Emeritus Sid Herzfeld	895 WEA	212.749.0085

with The Establishment. Cigarette smoke and contrarian opinions filled neighborhood bars; the wail of car alarms and police sirens filled the avenues; independent businesses filled stores on Broadway. At Papyrus Bookstore on Broadway and West 114th Street, Chris Doeblin sold books. He later moved a few paces up the avenue to the basement of Book Forum, where he toiled as a receiving clerk. Eventually, Doeblin and a partner founded a scholarly book wholesaler, Great Jones Books, while exploring prospects for an academic bookstore to serve our neighborhood. With support from Columbia University in 1997, they opened Labyrinth Books on West 112th Street, where they shared a building with a US Post Office. In 2007, Chris

The store welcomes readers who like to browse and think.

bought out his partner and renamed the store Book Culture. In the following ten years, he managed the openings of three related bookstores: Book Culture on Broadway at West $114^{\rm th}$ Street, Book Culture on Columbus at West $82^{\rm nd}$ Street, and Book Culture LIC in Long Island City.

An Urgent Fundraising Appeal

On June 24, 2019, facing the challenges of online competition, expansion, and increases in New York State's minimum wage, Doeblin sent customers, City officials, and members of the public an email warning that financial pressures might

Where on this block?

The first person to send Steve Zirinsky an email with the correct location of the architectural detail will win one of the Block Association's new totes! Email Steve at Steve@Zirinskyarch.com.



bring down the curtain on Book Culture's long run even though its audience continues to applaud for encores. "Our four stores are in danger of closing soon," he wrote, "and we need financial assistance or investment on an interim basis to help us find our footing." Book Culture has launched a fundraising effort. If you are interested in participating, you can find details on its website at bookculture.com/support.

Despite financial pressures, our local Book Culture on West 112th appears hale and healthy. It does, however, exhibit a split personality: the ground floor invites intellectual grazing; the second floor encourages deep mining of rich veins of knowledge. Lining the staircase that connects the two floors, piles of books offer tastes from Book Culture's diverse menu, which caters to intellectuals with a hearty appetite for complexity and ambiguity, but with no stomach for overcooked ideologies or half-baked theories validating intolerance.

Something for Everyone on Crammed Shelves, Tables

In the entrance way on the first floor, you encounter racks of periodicals for active minds. You find newsstand fare (The Atlantic, Harpers, The New Yorker), literary journals (Hudson Review, Granta, Paris Review), political periodicals (Mother Jones, Current Affairs, The New Republic), culturally specific publications (Mekong Review, Brooklyn Magazine, Oxford American: A Magazine of the South), category defiers (Funambulist: Politics of Space and Bodies), and a wide selection of arts and lifestyle periodicals.

In the open area beyond the first-floor entrance way, you find the walls lined with bookshelves and the floor cluttered with tables displaying piles of books lying face up to welcome browsers. Divided into sections according to subject matter, the first floor focuses on recent publications, stocking only those classics that provide context for current trends. Concentrating on the humanities and social sciences, the collection offers little for specialists in science and technology. Even the section marked "Math and Science" addresses mostly general readers.

At the top of the stairs on the second floor, you encounter an information desk staffed by knowledgeable listeners who look you in the eye and provide coherent answer, usually without fumbling on a computer keyboard. To the right, you glimpse a cozy, cheerful, welcoming section stocked with colorful books to satisfy childhood fancies. If you bear left, you enter a seemingly endless labyrinth of bookshelves, where tens of thousands of books convey the breath of human knowledge and offer the opportunity for deep digs into specific subjects.

Throughout the store, you find displays of books on sale. On many shelves alongside pristine books, you find used copies of the same title at deep discounts. Periodically, you stumble on displays of paraphernalia: greeting cards, book bags, back packs, scarves, bath accessories, moleskins, and stuffed animals.

Whether or not you make a purchase at Book Culture, you will carry home a gift: the reassurance that people still think.

If you enjoyed the Yard Sale, please thank our

Generous Donors

American Museum of

Natural History

Amity Hall Arco Café

Bank Street Book Store

Befitnyc

Ben & Jerry's

Bloomingdale School of

Music

Body Strength Fitness

Book Culture Broadway Dive

Buchetta Brick Oven Pizza

Café du Soleil Casa Mexicana Cascabel Taqueria

Dive Bar Dive 106 Dive 75

Dog Days of New York

E's Bar

Effy Hair Boutique

The Ellington

Friendly Valet Cleaners

Fumo

Garden of Eden Grain House Grape Collective

Guacamole

Guggenheim Museum

The Heights

Jack's Art Gallery Janoff's Stationery Life in Motion

Makana

Manhattan Valley Indian

Restaurant

Manhattan Valley Wine &

Spirits

Martin Brothers Wine & Spirit Mel's Burger Bar Metro Diner

Mexican Festival

New York Brat Factory New York Tours by Gary

107 West Osteria 106

Pan Asian Repertory

Theatre

Paris Frameworks
Photographic Portrait

Regional Bar & Restaurant

Riverside Liquors RoboFun Studio

Saiguette Serafina

Shaking Crab

Silver Moon Bakery Symphony Space

Thai Market Restaurant
University Hardware
V & T Restaurant
Westside Market

Wu & Nussbaum

Yu Kitchen

<u>West 104th Street Yard Sale</u> Sponsored by the West 104th Street Block Association

30th Annual Yard Sale Celebrates Community (cont.)

City Comptroller, sent a certificate citing the Block Association for more than four decades of outstanding work to support New Yorkers on the Upper West Side.

Long before these presentations, however, fate had smiled on the Yard Sale. Days earlier, a film crew with significant enforcement powers had cleared all vehicles from curbsides and had set the stage for Yard Sale vendors to create an uncluttered promenade where shoppers could stroll and take in the sights, sounds, and aromas of a bustling marketplace.

In the early morning on the day of the Yard Sale, sunny skies, comfortable temperatures, and mild winds assisted the teams of families and friends who unpacked vanloads of goods and assembled displays of vintage clothing, costume jewelry, out-grown toys and games, retired household items, and various forsaken treasures. Wearing navy blue T-shirts with the Block Association logo, volunteers posted signs and stocked tables for the Bake Sale, Book Sale, Raffle, Silent Auction, and What-A-Bargain. Others swept the street, erected a stage, finetuned the amplifiers, and hoisted heavy trays of books into browsing position.

Raffle Pot Reaches \$4990

By 10:00, more than sixty vendor stalls lined both sides of the street from Riverside Drive to West End Avenue and attracted hundreds of bargain hunters. As the crowd swelled to thousands, the vendors and shoppers bargained, gossiped, closed deals, shared a laugh, renewed acquaintances, and made new friends. Taking occasional breaks from shopping and socializing, neighbors gathered around the stage to enjoy the folk/rock of Foley Road (James Weatherstone and Kurt Emmerich), the jazz guitars of Joe Giglio and Carl Sciaberra, and the soul music of Shailah and the Shaylettes. After weeks of passing by tables on the corner of West End where volunteers sold raffle tickets, neighbors continued to feel twinges of luck that sent them hunting for the "50/50 Raffle" table where they stood on line to buy their last tickets. Before the end of the day, they would boost the total pot to \$4,990

The raffle ticket sellers were not the only ones to get an early start on Yard Sale preparations. In early spring, Block Association representatives applied to the Street Authority Permit Office for approval to hold a street festival, to reroute traffic, to display merchandise, to amplify music, and to charge shoppers money. Targeting local restaurants, stores, and institutions, a Block Association SWAT team launched a campaign that succeeded in persuading the management of sixty local businesses to donate gift certificates to put up for bid at the Silent Auction. With the arrival of summer, volunteers negotiated terms with musicians to supply the beat for street dancing and curbside bargaining. Meanwhile, others produced and distributed flyers to sell vendor spaces and to solicit book, bakery and Silent Auction donations. Others posted Yard Sale flyers on bulletin boards in buildings and stores from 96th to 110th Streets. They sent press releases to local media and community association. Generous allies from neighboring blocks joined the public-outreach campaign, employing electronic media and printed newsletters. Volunteers amassed a small mountain of cartons discarded by local fruit stands for use at the Book Sale.

A Day Filled with Community Spirit and Notable Success

When September 21 finally arrived, volunteers received their pay-

ment: an outpouring of community spirit. They joined their neighbors in a celebration of diversity and unity and in a salute to past accomplishment. As the day drew to a close, a crowd gathered at the top of the block for the drawing of the winners of the 50/50 Raffle. Jane Emery, the lucky first prize winner, took home \$2,495, an all-time high. Second prize winner Jane Altman won \$100, and third-prize winner Nancy Vitalie won \$50

By the time that vendors and volunteers began packing up, bargain hunters had generated record sales at many vendors stalls, as well as the tables where the Block Association displayed baked goods, used books, raffle tickets, second-hand treasures, gently used merchandise, and gift certificates. In all, the Yard Sale earned about \$8,500 to ensure that our block remains safe, well-maintained, and welcoming.

Thank You to Our 2019 Yard Sale Volunteers!

We salute the neighbors who gave their time baking skills to making the Yard Sale a success. We could not do it without you!

BAKERY VOLUNTEERS:

Jane Cohen; Miriam Duhan; Miriam Grabois; Alex Grannis; Lynn Max; Carol Prager; Marlene Schonbrun; Larry Stern

BAKERY:

Laura Bronson; Mary Cargil; Karen Collins; Jane Cohen; Sandi Cooper; Barbara Cowling; Jennifer Cowling; Kay Cynamon; Patrick Dail; Arleen Danford; Janie Deegan; Miriam Duhan; Tova Getoff, Miriam Grabois; Alex Grannis; Pnina Halak; Daniel Jenkins; Jon Krinsky; Nancy Lian; Anne Mannix; Kayla Massick; Kim Max; Lynn Max; Steve Pred; Carol Prager; Katherine Randall; Ray Schwartz; Jon Smith; Mark Smith; Larry Stern; Elizabeth Stone; Donna Tapper; David Wildman; Paul Zeigler

BOOKS:

Emily Berleth (organizer); Marian Brown; Linda Friedman; Carole Slade; Mark Smith

RAFFLE:

Laura Bronson; Tom Monaco; Lisa Rabinowicz; Lani Sanjek; Virginia Thomas; Andrea Wright

WHAT A BARGAIN:

Carol Goodfriend; Allan Greenberg; Orli Himmelweit; Karen Odom; Meaghan Onofrey; Joe Rappaport; Lisa Zeitz Connor Stewart; Elizabeth Stone; Virginia Thomas; Paul Zeigler

SILENT AUCTION: Lydia Dufour

SET UP/BREAK DOWN/SOUND: Teresa Elwert; Dan Jenkins; Steve Max; Steve Pred; Katherine Randall; Ethan Zirinsky





A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood

30th Yard Sale brings residents and neighbors together to celebrate.



Top to bottom: Shailah Edmonds wraps up a day of great entertainment; vendors got some shopping in too; Jeff Howitt, the Yard Sale's chief organizer, helps a bidder at the Silent Auction—a record 60 vendors donated gift certificates; browsers flocked to the book table.









Top to bottom: Marvelous masks; Carol Prager, Lynn Max and Miriam Grabois staff the bake table; Council member Helen Rosenthal, in yellow shirt, gave the block association a citation for being an "outstanding community partner"; board members Larry Stern and Lynn Max pose with Carol Goodfriend, Gail Brewer and Steve Zirinsky; Foley Road kicked off the afternoon's live music with classic rock.





BAiP @ 10

The neighborhood organization, created to help older residents stay in the community, celebrates a decade of achievements.

By Caitlin Hawke

as members have organized in many different ways to celebrate a decade since BAiP was founded.

Starting in early September, a series of 30 Show+Go outings, all led by different volunteers, have set out to places like Governors Island, the Poster Museum, dim sum brunches, pop-up concerts, the Javits Center's green roof, Green-Wood Cemetery, and many other nooks and crannies of our city. In addition, ten members opened up their homes and led mini-klatches for small groups of neighbors to get to know one another. A few mini-klatches also took place in local diners.

Add to that the debut of BAiP.s Founders Oral History Project on October 16 in a presentation co-sponsored with the Bloomingdale Neighborhood History Group. The evening featured many W. 104th Street residents like Hanna Rubin, who chaired the W. 104th Street Block Association when around 2008 Phyllis Sperling and Herman Sands brought the idea to her to create an aging-in-place initiative akin to Beacon Hill Village in Boston. The oral history project



Phyllis Sperling presents the Herman Sands Award to Arlene Seffern.

Manhattan Borough President
Gail Brewer joined the windup
festivities to celebrate the "amazing"
community which is BAiP.

also brought together the recollections of block association members and BAiP founders Roses Katz, Robert Ledogar, Judy Pietrasiewicz, and Phyllis Sperling, as well as those of David Reich, co-founder with Rubin of BAiP, and of Ruth-Ellen Simmonds, the then-head of One Stop Senior Services who was an early "angel" in BAiP's development.

On October 23, at the New Jewish Home, "BAiP Presents" (formerly known as BAiP Panels) shook things up a little by challenging BAiP members to extract organizational lessons in a CCNY Sociology professor's ethnography of Burning Man, the edgy desert art collective that is run largely on volunteer-power each summer in late August in Black Rock City, Nevada. Participants brainstormed ways to carry forward basic Burning Man principles like 'do-ocracy' where volunteers are empowered to run with and implement great ideas, very similar to

the way BAiP's social groups work. Many W.104th Street neighbors serve on the "BAiP Presents" committee now headed by Marian Anderson, who succeeded Dorothy Crouch. Other BAiP Presents committee and tech volunteers include W. 104th residents Lydia Dufour, Roses Katz, Lani Sanjek, Marlene Schonbrun, Gil Tauber and others.

While another handful of Show+Go outings are still to come-running through the end of the year —the BAiP@10 anniversary celebrations were capped off by a festive DJ-ed party on October 27 at Ansche Chesed organized by Gerry Borrell, Miriam Cukier and Michelle Harris, with help from many others. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer came to tip her hat to the "amazing" community for older adults that's been woven together over the past 10 years in Bloomingdale. At the party, the annual Herman Sands Award was presented to Arlene Seffern who was nominated by her peers for her exemplary leadership as a volunteer. She leads BAiP's weekly beginners knitting

group, which she winkingly bragged was BAiP's best group. Many other group leaders were on hand to brag right back that their group was, in fact, the best. But no matter which group one belongs to, the long tail of BAiP's community-building effort is evident in times of need. Recently a member in Arlene's group suffered a bad fall in the subway, underwent surgery, and recuperated in rehab. Arlene was on the phone with her regularly for updates and to organize the group members for visits and support.

Neighbors are befriending, enjoying, helping, and supporting each other every day in our area, all thanks to BAiP. Here's to 10 more years in our do-ocracy!

BAiP FAQs

What's all the buzz about?
By Caitlin Hawke

Readers of this newsletter keep seeing the mysterious acronym BAiP in its pages. How do you pronounce it? What is it? Am I eligible to help or join? You'll find the answers to many such question below in an FAQ. We hope this information will make it all clear, but if you don't see an answer to your question, you may reach us at info@bloominplace.org or 212-842-8831, ext. 0.

IS IT "BAPE" OR "BEE-AY-EYE-PEA"? You choose! Most of our founders use the latter.

WHAT IS BAIP'S PURPOSE? BAIP's mission is to help older adults lead vital, safe, connected, and comfortable lives as their needs change. An all-volunteer, intergenerational network of neighbors, BAiP builds community by organizing social activities, sharing information and extending a helping hand to neighbors as they continue to live at home.

WHAT MAKES BAIP TICK? The engine is the will of us collectively to pitch in by helping each other make connections through visits, activities, information sharing, community organizing and volunteering.

WHO CAN BE A MEMBER OF BAIP? If you are an adult of any age who lives within our "neighborhood"—defined as W. 96th to W. 110th Streets between Riverside Drive and Central Park West—you are eligible.

WHAT IS THE COST? MEMBERSHIP IS FREE. If it's free, then how is BAiP funded? BAiP is an all-volunteer organization, which means that we have no paid staff.





Teresa Elwert's brisk walking group in Central Park; Bob Ledogar's morning walking regulars.

Our members volunteer to do everything, from working behind the scenes to administer the organization to leading groups of all kinds. Currently, about 150 of our members serve as volunteers and we very much would like to increase this number. All of our funding is raised through donations and bequests from our members, and from occasional small grants. Funding is spent on our wellness program, insurance, space rental, website maintenance, refreshments, postage and printing.

HOW CAN I APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP? Sign up here: bloominplace.org/membership.html. If you don't have access to the internet, call 212-842-8831, ext. 0 and leave a message; we will call you back.

HOW CAN I VOLUNTEER? BAiP needs people in all roles, people with one hour (or ten!) a week to spare, to serve as the following:

- Helping hands for neighbors who need assistance;
- Walking/book/outing/dining group leaders;
- •Building representatives to be a liaison to your neighbors;
- Greeters at events; administrators, data entry and communications specialists
- Tech Squad members who can hang pictures or fix glitches in computer software

To talk to us about volunteering contact us at info@bloominplace.org or 212-842-8831, ext. 0.

Riverside Park, Climate and Us

Tri-Bloomingdale's It's Easy Being Green Hosts Dan Garodnick on the park's role.
By Sharon Waskow

n November 7, It's Easy Being Green, a Tri-Bloomingdale Group, hosted its first speaker event in the neighborhood. Fifty neighbors came out on a rainy night to hear Dan Garodnick, the president and CEO of Riverside Park Conservancy, talk about how New York City's parks combat threats from climate change.

Sharon Waskow, It's Easy Being Green's co-leader, introduced Garodnick and explained their group's initiatives to reduce single-use plastic in supermarkets, increase participation in New York City's free food-scrap curbside pick up-program, and encourage local small businesses to adopt greener practices. Co-leader Christine Campbell then gave a pop quiz on Riverside

Garodnick first spoke about the decades of neglect from 1960s to the 1980s when Riverside Park became a repository for abandoned cars, graffiti and crime. The Riverside Park Conservancy was born through the scrappy

efforts of neighbors who volunteered to clean up the park. Now, 33 years later, the conservancy has 34 full-time staff, an \$8 million dollar budget, 5,000 volunteers and the park is a designated scenic landmark. From the perspective of climate threats, the park is vulnerable to flooding because it borders on the Hudson and extreme storms have become more frequent. Hurricane Sandy damaged the park's retaining walls

and 20 feet of water encroached on the park. The park is also vulnerable to runoff from the city's sewer system when rain is heavy, and untreated sewage flows into the river.



Dan Garodnick at talk

However, the park also helps counter the impact of climate change. Garodnick spoke about the cooling effect of the park, and the pollution reducing features of trees and plants, which absorb pollutants from the air, and soil, which helps remove them from water. "Riverside Park would wash away without its horticulture holding it together," he noted. Garodnick answered audience questions about dog runs (a caretaker is being hired), water fountains (upgrading is happening), and composting (an in-park program is in the works)

Garodnick noted that the Riverside Park Conservancy's relationship with

the New York City Parks Department, from which it receives funding, is subject to the vagaries of the New York City Budget process. Roughly half of the Conservancy's budget comes from private funding, including individual donors, and he encouraged the park's neighborhood residents to donate. For more information, go to www.riversideparknyc.org.

Anyone interested in joining It's Easy Being Green or receiving the group's newsletter and personal action blasts should email itseasybeinggreen.uws@gmail.com.

COMMONLY REQUESTED COMPOUNDING IDEAS

- Boric Acid Suppositories
- Hydrocortisone Suppositories
- Ibuprofen Suppositories 100mg / 200mg
- Progesterone Suppositories
- Hyaloronic Suppositories for vaginal dryness
- Hormone Creams for men and women
- Pain Creams

- Nipple Ointment for breastfeeding
- Hydroquinone 6% Fading Cream
- T3 T4 Thyroid Hormone Capsules
- Nitroglycerin .2% Ointment for Anal Fissure
- Nifedipine 2% Ointment
- Diltiazem 2% Ointment

***Topical Creams (in Lipoderm Base) for nausea,
vomiting, pain, fever for adults and children
We can formulate or reduce dosages on commercially
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Customized Medication for your pets.

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Email: subapharm@yahoo.com

Welcome to Board Member Stephen Helman

walk down Riverside Drive last spring ${f A}$ convinced Stephen Helman that he had found his next home. A native New Yorker, Helman remembered the neighborhood from his days as a law student at Columbia University. A longtime East Side resident, Helman fell in love with the sidestreets that led down to the park. He knew his collie Merlin (see photo below) would like the park as well.



Helman found an apartment at 315 Riverside Drive and moved in last May. "When I cross West End Avenue at 104th Street, my face lights up," he says. "I can see the park from there." Helman, who worked as general counsel to a bank for many years before retiring in 2015, now volunteers as a lawyer representing taxi drivers in actions against the Taxi and Limousine Commission. He receives his case assignments through Mobilization for Justice, a non-profit. The cases are tried at the OATH (Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings) tribunal.

Helman looks forward to helping the block association with spring and summer plantings and the Yard Sale. He already pitched in to help sell raffle tickets this year, and nabbed two desk lamps at the Silent Auction table. Most of all, he is glad to live on such a welcoming block. "It's the only place I've been where everyone says hello when you walk down the street," he says. "It is an absolute pleasure to be here."

Barbara Bryan: An Historic Tenure Board after serving for a record



 $B^{\rm arbara}$ Bryan has retired from the 104th St. Block Association 35 years. She joined in 1984 in response to entreaties on bulletin boards for volunteers to step forward to serve on the Block Association's small board to help save it from going

The following year she became president and served in that role for 10 years. During those years working relationships were established with the Sanitation Council, the Police

Council, Riverside Park Fund and other community organizations. Tree guards were installed and tree gardens planted. Block "cafes," neighborhood tours, Holiday caroling became the norm, and the addition of 5-day a week guard service was a major goal that was achieved. And the annual block party was renamed the now famous Yard Sale in 1989. The size of the Board increased to 13 and has expanded to 15 in the years since 1995. She remained a Board Member until now, serving in various capacities. Her most recent accomplishment was selling raffle tickets not only to neighborhood residents, but to some of the staff filming a movie on the block!

Barbara has lived on the block since 1968, and continues to be involved in local and national organizations, especially the Hearing Loss Association of America. She has always enjoyed the real spirit of our community on 104th Street. She is proud have been a part of the Board whose members work so well together to keep the spirit alive and thriving.

Pooch Parade



Buddy, Merlin and Reggie get ready for Halloween (treats) in the block's first early a.m. Halloween Pooch Parade. Costumes: optional.

Coming in the next newsletter....

Part II of Gil Tauber's look at Riverside Drive Mansions.



NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

BLOOMINGDALE AGING IN

PLACE (BaiP) 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, 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, or call: 212-842-8831 to leave a message with vour 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,

MATHEMATICS TUTORING

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

OUICKBOOKS 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.

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.

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 Hanna Rubin 315 RSD or send to Hanna.Rubin@verizon.net 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. steve@zirinskyarch.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

Amount of check:

2019 4th Quarter Dues: Please allocate my contribution to:

Security Beautification Social Newsletter Board Decision (Suggested amt: \$40/quarter or \$160/year)

Name

Apt. No. Address Phone E-mail Address

(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:

G. Waskow: 320 RSD, Apt. 8G M. Mann: 309 W. 104, Apt 3A