



**CARNEGIE HILL**  
*neighbors*

SPRING 2024  
Vol. 45/No. 1



**WARNING:**  
THIS TOWER  
IS A GRAPHIC  
DEPICTION.  
LET'S KEEP IT  
THAT WAY!  
See page 20.

# The Team for Every Sensibility



**823 PARK AVENUE, 5TH FLOOR**  
Asking \$12,500,000



**120 EAST 71ST STREET**  
In Contract Asking \$13,500,000



**1045 MADISON AVENUE #10**  
In Contract | Representing the Buyers Asking \$15,000,000



**1148 FIFTH AVENUE, #10B**  
Sold | Price available upon request



**1160 PARK AVENUE, #14B**  
Sold | Price available upon request



**MARIA MANUCHE**  
Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker  
The Manuche Team  
mmmteam@compass.com  
M: 917.328.2338

**CLARE CUKIER**  
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson  
The Manuche Team  
mmmteam@compass.com  
M: 609.529.0147

compass.com



■ The Maria Manuche Team is a team of real estate agents affiliated with Compass, a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdrawal without notice. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Photos may be virtually staged or digitally enhanced and may not reflect actual property conditions.



**CARNEGIE HILL**  
*news*  
SPRING 2024

- 3 **Spring Calendar**
- 4 **CHN UpFront**  
Activities and Updates  
**List of Advertisers**
- 6 **Major Contributors**
- 8 **On Museum Mile**  
*by Bo Niles*
- 10 **Streetscape**  
*by Joanna Cawley*
- 12 **New Board Members**  
*by Wen Li*
- 14 **Carnegie Hill Profile: Whitney Tilson**  
*by Wen Li*
- 16 **Come to our Spring Benefit**
- 17 **Burden Mansion, Revisited**
- 18 **Landmark Land**  
*by Lo van der Valk*
- 20 **CHN Tower Timeline**  
*by Joanna Cawley and Simeon Bankoff*
- 21 **Appeal for Support**  
*by Joanna Cawley*
- 22 **Neighborhood News**  
*by B. A. Conlin*
- 23 **Safe Neighborhood**  
*by George Stobely*
- 24 **Neighborhood Authors**  
*by Lenny Golay*
- 26 **Shop Talk**  
*by Bobbie Leigh*
- 28 **Pup Patrol** *by Mitzi Eberhart*
- 29 **Loving & Losing Flaco**  
*by Sarah Bramwell*
- 30 **Tree Care: Enlist Youth**  
*by Julia Bradford*
- 32 **CHN Membership**

**Editor-in-Chief:** Barbara Coffey  
**Graphic Designer:** Cynthia MacGrath  
**Editors:** Sarah Bramwell, Lenny Golay, Ann Levin, Bo Niles  
**Lead Photographer:** Susan Hoehn

S P R I N G



E V E N T S

SUSAN HOEHN

**CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS Annual Spring Benefit at the James A. Burden Mansion**  
Thursday, May 16, 6:30–9:00 p.m.  
See pages 16,17.



**THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
Park Avenue at 92nd Street  
212-289-4400 brickchurch.org  
**Strawberry Festival** Live music, hot dogs, strawberry shortcake, ice cream, children’s games. Sunday, May 19, 12:15–2:00 p.m.

**HOUSE OF THE REDEEMER**  
7 East 95th Street 212-289-0399, ext. 11  
houseoftheredeemer.org  
**Garden Party** Thursday, June 6, 6:30–9:00 p.m. Call to purchase tickets.

**CHURCH OF THE HEAVENLY REST**  
1085 Fifth Avenue 212-289-3400, ext. 204  
heavenlyrest.org. **BLOCK 90 Festival**, Tuesday, June 11, as part of Museum Mile Festival

**CHN WALKING TOUR: JANE'S WALK**  
CHN will participate in the annual city-wide walk in honor of urban activist Jane Jacobs. Join the free Carnegie Hill walk led by CHN President Lo van der Valk Saturday, May 4, 3:00–4:30 p.m.

Meet at the SW corner of 91st Street and Lexington Avenue. Call the CHN office to reserve space at 212-996-5520.

**DILLER-QUAILE SCHOOL OF MUSIC**  
24 East 95th Street  
212-369-1484, ext.10 diller-quaile.org  
**Violin Festival** Monday, May 13, 5:15 p.m.  
**Spring Concert** Monday, May 20, 7:00 p.m.

**44th ANNUAL MUSEUM MILE FESTIVAL**  
Fifth Avenue between 82nd and 105th Streets. Free access to some of the world's finest art collections—from the Metropolitan Museum of Art to El Museo del Barrio Plus outdoor activities, face painting, music. Tuesday, June 11, 6:00–9:00 p.m.

**CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Sarah M. Bramwell • Heather Brandes • Frances F. Chedid • Barbara Coffey\* • Jennifer Garrett • Mark L. Goldsmith\* • Susan Gottridge\* • Sada Grieve • Punch Hutton • Diane E. Jaffee • Linda Kurtz • Margaret Loeb • Chris McLaughlin • Nicole Mellody • Ginger Pitman • Trish Preston\* • Molly Rand • Kevin Roe\* • Jason Schwalbe • April Shelton • George Stobely\* • Lo van der Valk\*  
\*Executive Committee
- EMERITUS:** David C. Balderston • Cynthia MacGrath • Ronald Spencer

CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS IS DEDICATED TO PRESERVING THE ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE OF THE NEIGHBORHOOD, LANDSCAPING THE MALLS, ENHANCING STREETSCAPES, CARING FOR TREES, PROVIDING SECURITY, AND ADDRESSING CLIMATE ISSUES.

# MALLS CARE EXTENDS TO 97TH STREET

The 2007 renovation of the northern mall on Park Avenue between 96th and 97th streets significantly improved seating, horticulture, and design of its passive green space. The renovation was a collaboration between citizens and the city. Carnegie Hill resident Lynden B. Miller, a celebrated public garden designer, selected plantings, flowering and evergreen shrubs, perennials, ground covers, and flowering trees, providing color in every season. Mrs. Miller's continued stewardship of the park considers the maintenance schedule and expansive perennial beds, linked by undulating granite retainer walls that provide seating in addition to park benches, perfect for an outdoor lunch or playdate rendezvous.

Resting on the faultline between two park districts that care for larger parks with more needs, the 97th Street park suffers neglect and infrequent cleaning. Enter Caroline King, parttime staff at CHN and fulltime mom, who solved CHN's quest for cleanup help. Caroline suggested partnering with St. Bernard's School, where community service and green education are priorities. Last November, a bumper crop of St. Bernard's students cleaned up the park. They will return on Friday, April 19, when Council members Keith Powers and Julie Menin, and former Representative Carolyn Maloney will join Mrs. Miller and her son Gifford Miller, former District 4 councilmember and city council speaker, to thank the St. Bernard's boys for their service.

To the south, the Park Avenue malls to 86th Street are now blooming with orange tulips and pink flowering trees. CHN continues to upgrade the railroad ties on the median. Soon the mall end beds will be covered with lush begonias.



SUSAN HOEHN

CAROLINE KING

St. Bernard's students cleaned up the garden park last fall, and will do so again this April.

## THANK YOU, PARK AVENUE BUILDINGS & FRIENDS, FOR YOUR SUPPORT

1040	1088	1130	1172	1230	49 East 86th St.	The Brick Presbyterian Church
1045	1100	1133	1175	1235	64 East 86th St.	Church of St. Thomas More
1049	1105	1150	1185		120 East 90th St.	
1060	1112	1155	1192		65 East 93rd St.	
1070	1120	1160	1199		130 East 94th St.	
1075	1125	1165	1220			



### CHN MEMBER BENEFITS INCLUDE

- **Weekly Tai Chi at Church of the Heavenly Rest**  
Beginner level Wednesdays at 2:00 p.m.  
Advanced level Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
- **No fee Notary Services** by appointment.
- **Small items E-Recycling Dropoff** during office hours, Monday – Friday, 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Email [info@chneighbors.org](mailto:info@chneighbors.org).

### DAVID J. STOLL WILL BE MISSED

We are sad to report that CHN's dedicated Chairman of the Board David J. Stoll passed away in November. David moved to Carnegie Hill in 1993, which he said was "the most beautiful, quietest, and safest neighborhood in Manhattan." He joined the CHN Board in 2014 and became chairman in 2016. Donations to CHN in his memory will be used to further work in his primary passions: preservation and graffiti removal.





KEITH POWERS



JULIE MENIN

## CHN PARTNERS WITH NYC

Partnering with the City Council on local and citywide initiatives provides CHN resources and opportunity for public realm improvement, small business assistance, cultural events, and strength and balance classes free and open to the public. CHN has expanded our green footprint, caring for municipal-owned street furniture and focusing on stewardship of our street trees and built environment—vital to sustaining clean, safe, and healthy communities.

CHN trains interns to have a ground-up understanding of the streetscape, remedies and expected outcomes, to uphold the neighborhood’s integrity, while promoting a “repair rather than replace” philosophy. **We are grateful for the support we receive from our two City Council members Keith Powers (District 4) and Julie Menin (District 5),** who share a desire to lift communities through beauty, safety and preservation.

Formation of a Business Improvement District (BID) for East 86th Street and its environs stalled during Covid; Ms. Menin engaged CHN to assist in a restart in 2022. Two years later, the effort continues with the East 86th Street Association, a volunteer organization, stepping up to assume the leadership role in this ongoing BID formation effort.

Due to popular response, CHN continues to add classes and programs connecting older adults with free services to improve mental and physical health.

**A Cultural Immigrant Initiative awarded by District 5 prompted us to approach the Russian Orthodox Church Outside of Russia** (on East 93rd Street at Park Avenue), to enrich Carnegie Hill by hosting events that encourage cultural awareness. Recent programs include Ukrainian folk music, fireside chats with featured guests like Assembly Member Alex Bores outlining alternatives to sidewalk cell towers, local historian Michael Klebnikov examining the legacy of Tsarist Russia, and health practitioners grappling with female wellness after 40. Upcoming programs include a Tin Pan Alley live musical review, and a presentation on “how to create content online,” an examination of the Landmarks Preservation Commission under former Mayor Bill De Blasio, book events, and other programs of cultural significance to the Russian Church and Carnegie Hill.

## CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS STAFF

Lo van der Valk, President  
Joanna Cawley, Executive Director  
Nina Whiting, Membership Manager  
Caroline King, CHN Administrator  
Call: 212-996-5520  
email: info@chneighbors.org

### CHN ONLINE

Join the social network of Carnegie Hill Neighbors. Catch the latest CHN activities and events. Check out Carnegie Hill Neighbors on Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube. Visit [chneighbors.org](http://chneighbors.org).



INSTAGRAM@  
CARNEGIEHILLNEIGHBORS



FACEBOOK@  
CARNEGIEHILLNEIGHBORS



YOUTUBE@  
CARNEGIEHILLNEIGHBORS



**CHN CAN BENEFIT FROM YOUR AMAZON PURCHASES**  
Sign into your Smile.Amazon.com account; select CHN as your charity. Five percent of your purchase will be donated to CHN.

### TO JOIN CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS OR RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP

scan the QR Code

or go to our website: [chneighbors.org](http://chneighbors.org)



## PLEASE SUPPORT OUR ADVERTISERS

	Page		Page
Brosnan Risk Consultants	28	Dr. Robert & Lisa Guida	31
Carnegie Hill Village	27	Gumley Haft	11
Carousel of Languages	15	Holly Hunt, Corcoran	25
City Tree Guards	11	Michael Klebenov, Tutor	27
Dale B. Cohen Interior Design	25	Island Restaurant	9
Diller-Quaile School	27	Lane Farms	27
DSF Gift Shop	25	Maria Manuche, Compass	2
E. B. Cohen & Associates	11	Mind Your Body	27
Eli Zabar - Bar '91	13	Mitey Musicians	27
Patricia Ellis, Douglas Elliman	27	Ali Oorusoff, Bookkeeping	27
Glace by NoGlu	13	S. Feldman Housewares	28
Geri Grobman, Corcoran	15	Sugar Bay Rental	7
Sada Grieve, Veterinarian	23	Table d'Hote	15

## CALL CITY OFFICIALS FOR HELP (212)

Jerry Nadler, U.S. Congress	367-7350	<a href="http://nadler.house.gov">nadler.house.gov</a>
Liz Krueger, State Senate	490-9535	<a href="mailto:liz@lizkrueger.com">liz@lizkrueger.com</a>
Alex Bores, State Assembly	605-0937	<a href="mailto:boresa@assembly.gov">boresa@assembly.gov</a>
Rebecca Seawright, State Assembly	288-4607	<a href="mailto:seawright@assembly.state.ny.us">seawright@assembly.state.ny.us</a>
Keith Powers, City Council	818-0580	<a href="mailto:kpowers@council.nyc.gov">kpowers@council.nyc.gov</a>
Julie Menin, City Council	860-1950	<a href="mailto:jmenin@council.nyc.gov">jmenin@council.nyc.gov</a>
Mark Levine, Borough President	669-8300	<a href="mailto:bp@manhattanbp.org">bp@manhattanbp.org</a>
Will Brightbill, Community Bd. 8	758-4340	<a href="mailto:info@cb8m.org">info@cb8m.org</a>
George Sarkissian, Community Bd. 11	831-8929	<a href="mailto:info@cb11m.org">info@cb11m.org</a>
Rich Stein, Landmarks (LPC)	669-7923	<a href="mailto:richstein@lpc.nyc.gov">richstein@lpc.nyc.gov</a>
Police, 19th Precinct Community Affairs	452-0613	fax: 452-0652
Police, 23rd Precinct (above 96th St.)	860-6411	



# MANY THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS CONTRIBUTORS

## CARNEGIE CIRCLE

Judith Moncrieff Baldwin  
 Kenneth & Kathryn Chenault  
 Robert & Dolores Freidenrich  
 Judith Gibbons & Francesco Scattone  
 Perry & Donna Golkin  
 Michael Gordon  
 Patricia Hynes & Roy Reardon  
 Carol & Jerome Kenney  
 Wilmot & Julie Kidd  
 Claire & Cornelius Marx  
 Eliza & Chris McLaughlin  
 Nicole Nunag Mellody  
 Xinyu Pan  
 Julia Peck & John Gardiner  
 John & Trish Preston  
 Elihu & Elizabeth Robertson  
 Larry & Wendy Rockefeller  
 Monica & Douglas Taylor  
 Susan S. & Kenneth L. Wallach  
 McCartney Wilkins  
 Anonymous (2)

## LEADERS

Anne & Guillaume Bebear  
 The Brinberg Family  
 Jenifer Brooks & Bruce Thorpe  
 Anthony & Frances Chedid  
 Judy Feldstein  
 Johnson & Jenny Garrett  
 Katherine Goldsmith  
 Arthur Goldstone  
 Steve & Myrna Greenberg  
 Sada Grieve  
 Diane E. Jaffee & David O'Brien  
 Gerald & Jane Katcher  
 Matthew Landy  
 Cynthia MacGrath  
 Emily McLellan  
 Carolyn & Eugene Mercy Jr.  
 Philip & Louisa Palmer  
 John & Margaret Ruttenberg  
 Cristian & Astrid Sabella Rosa  
 Stuart Saft  
 Saint David's School  
 Cynthia C. Wainwright  
 Jonathan Weiss & Barbara Asch

## PATRONS

Liz & Blair Boyer  
 Sarah & Austin Bramwell  
 Jennifer Burleigh  
 Sam & Sally Butler  
 Mt. Sinai Medical Center  
 David & Treva De Leeuw  
 David De Weese  
 Kathleen Doyle  
 Augustus & Jill G. Du Pont  
 Marc & Sheri Feigen  
 Elizabeth Fox  
 Michael George  
 Aileen & Dr. Peter Godsick  
 Mark & Arlene Goldsmith  
 Joyce Goodman  
 Susan & Marc Gottridge  
 Angela & William Haines  
 Anne & John Hall  
 Tony & Anna Hass  
 Anne & Tom Haubenstricker  
 Collette Home  
 Kate & Harold Hope

Alexandra Isles  
 Joy & Benno Kimmeman  
 Peter & Hela Kindler  
 Shelly Lanning  
 Patricia Lessow  
 Nila & David Long  
 Lexi McCaffe  
 J. McLaughlin, Inc.  
 Gillian & Eduardo Mestre  
 Alexandra Nicholson & Mark Silber  
 Jane & Ralph O'Connell  
 Cynnie & Thomas P. Ogden  
 Olaf & Anna Olafsson  
 Maureen O'Leary  
 Metropolitan Nicholas Olhovskiy  
 Virginia Bradley Pitman  
 Jennifer Raab  
 Patricia Riley  
 Kevin Roe & Christina von Riesenfelder  
 Suzanne & David Santry  
 Jason Schwalbe  
 William & Cindy Scott  
 Cynthia & Thomas P. Sculco  
 Pamela Seymon & Robert Schumer  
 Finley Shaw  
 Mark & April Shelton  
 Jay Sherwood  
 Richard & Barbara Solomon  
 Paul Sperry & Beatrice Mitchell  
 Christine & George Stonbely  
 Mrs. Bradford Swett  
 Natalia & Charles Torres  
 Lo van der Valk  
 Robin Wambold  
 Alden Warner  
 Greg & Leslie Warner  
 Susan Zirinsky & Joe Peyronnin

## BENEFACTORS

James & Veronica Baker  
 Mr. & Mrs. Christopher Baldwin  
 Timothy Barakett  
 Talene & Eric Baroyan  
 Fredrick & Jutta Benenson  
 Georgette Bennett & Leonard Polonsky  
 Matthew Blattmachr  
 Edward Dewees & Julia Blaut  
 Marie & Joseph Bowden  
 Inge & Lester Brafman  
 Todd & Ashley Carlson  
 Richard & Mariam Charlton  
 Barbara & John Coffey  
 Barry & Bobbi Collier  
 Melanie Coronetz & Bruce Miller  
 Anne Nickel Curtin & Tom Brandenburger  
 Ioanna Dafermou  
 Luiz Fracao  
 Seth Orlow & Myra Freed  
 Elliot & Barbara Gewirtz  
 Suzanne & John Golden  
 Linda & Matthew Greenberg  
 Samuel L. Guillory, MD  
 Wendy & David Hashmall  
 Punch Hutton & John Hodges  
 Lisa & George Johnston  
 Scott & Shifra Kauffmann  
 Richard & Virginia Keim  
 David G. Knott & Françoise Girard  
 Della & John Leathers  
 Amanda Leleszi  
 Paul Levy

Eric & Joyce Mendelsohn  
 Bethany & Robert Millard  
 Sandra Earl Mintz  
 Grace Evans Myers  
 Martin & Kane Nussbaum  
 Marnie Pillsbury  
 Lauren Poehl  
 Molly & William Rand  
 Margaret Richards  
 Sarah & Michael Shulman  
 John Silberstein & Caroline Erisman  
 Sigety Family Foundation  
 Diane Winter Sunshine  
 Leslie Tabet  
 Maurice Tempelman  
 John B. Vermylen  
 Taylor Wagenseil  
 Karen Fiorentino Walsh & Pat Walsh  
 Robert & Mary Weinberg  
 Michael Dennis & Katherine Wenning  
 Tommy Wesely

## SUPPORTERS

Stuart S. Applebaum  
 Gregory & Vinton Bauer  
 John & Ulla Beauchamp  
 Stephen & Patricia Beckwith  
 Martha Berman & Robert Lipp  
 Wendy & Peter Bernstein  
 Alexander Blanton  
 Jay & Dena Bock  
 Lily Boisi  
 Julia Bradford  
 Marisol & Richard Brekka  
 Honor & John Brodie  
 Eduardo Castillo  
 Jennifer Cattier  
 Susan Channing  
 Chani Churchill  
 Julie Cho  
 Jennifer Christman & Jay Cohen  
 Jonathan L. Cohen & Allison Morrow  
 Joan Colello  
 Ellen & Winthrop Conrad  
 Lynn & Leo Corbett  
 Federico & Martina De Giorgis  
 Marie de Lucia  
 Susanna Lachs Adler & Dean Adler  
 Kate DelPizzo  
 Michael & Kathleen Dowling  
 Lauren Dukes  
 Brian Eiting  
 Patricia Ellis  
 Alex & Dan Fallon  
 Anina & Powell Fraser  
 J. Carr & Carolyn Gamble  
 Gerald & Nancy Gehman  
 The Malcolm Gibbs Foundation  
 Diana Gilly  
 Judith Ginsberg & Paul LeClerc  
 Suzanne & John Golden  
 Barbara & Henry Gooss  
 Andrew & Julia Gordon  
 Larry & Anne Gordon  
 Anne & Ray Groves  
 Lauren & Jay Grushkin  
 Ellis Hanson  
 Michael Heffernan  
 Pamela Heller  
 Anne Herrmann  
 Richard & Christiane Hiegel

Dr. Deborah Horowitz & Thomas Soulos  
 Terri Hupalo  
 Josephine Iselin  
 The Cohen Janes Charitable Fund  
 James Hsu & Eri Kakuta  
 Helen Kauder & Barry Nalebuff  
 Debbie Kennedy  
 Ms. Julia Kiel  
 David & Ellen Korn  
 Joan Leiman  
 William & Marcia Levy  
 Genevieve Lupton  
 Margaret T. MacCary  
 Richard & Lisa Macris  
 Marion Magnuson  
 Cristina Matera, MD  
 Joan McClure & Michael Schler  
 John & Lynn McCormick  
 Robert & Fulvia McCrie  
 Joan McKay  
 Julia Meech  
 Kelly Milam  
 Mary Morgan  
 Melissa & Chappy Morris  
 John & Jackie Morriss  
 Felinda Mottino & John Alexander  
 Marti P. Murray  
 Liz & Gus Oliver  
 Ken & Carolyn Ottenbreit  
 Judith Otto  
 Peter & Beryl Pantaleo  
 Catherine & Jeffrey Peck  
 Renata Pompa  
 Jerry Pozniak  
 Warrie & James Price  
 Liz Radke  
 Marc & Maddy Rice  
 Susan & Elihu Rose  
 The Alfred & Jane Ross Foundation  
 David Ross  
 Mary & Win Rutherford  
 The John Patrick Sare Fund  
 Erin Saulnier  
 Allison Saxe  
 Jacquelyn Schwimmer  
 Raj Seshadri  
 Sandy Seth  
 Adam & Mary Shepard  
 Elizabeth Singer  
 Kathy & John Slattery  
 Sarah Smith  
 Tierney & Bryan Smith  
 Barbara Snow  
 Roberta & Jeffrey Sommers  
 Carla Stearns  
 Linda Stern  
 Molly Stockley  
 Taran & Roy Swan  
 Helene Swedowsky  
 Brian & Mary Rose Sykes  
 Theresa S. Thompson  
 Michael & Judith Thoyer  
 Stephen Van Biesen  
 Maria Vecchiotti  
 Thomas & Anita Volpe  
 Cecilia & Mark Vonderheide  
 Joseph Wayland & Patricia Verrilli  
 Blaikie & Bob Worth  
 Suzanne Wuebben  
 Louise Yamada  
 Abigail Young  
 Anonymous

As of April 1, 2024

# St. Croix

*US Virgin Islands*

VACATION RENTALS  
VACATION RENTALS  
VACATION RENTALS  
VACATION RENTALS





by Bo Niles

### NEUE GALERIE NEW YORK

neuegalerie.org Thursday–Monday, 11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.  
**Klimt Landscapes**, painted during bucolic summer holidays in the artist’s native Austria, complements the Galerie’s room dedicated to him alongside his iconic “Woman in Gold,” as well as prints and photographs—for an immersive experience of this master’s art. Through May 6. + The Cafe Sabarsky always delights, as does Neue founder Ronald Lauder’s personal collection, presented here frequently.



## SPRING 2024: GRAPHICS, GREENERY, HISTORY



### THE SOLOMON R. GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM

guggenheim.org Sunday–Friday, 11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.; Saturday, 11:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

**Jenny Holzer: Light Line** unfurls texts up the rotunda’s iconic spiral as it redefines Holzer’s site-specific work from 35 years ago using A.I. to intersect with her words. May 17–September 29.

**A Year With Children** returns with art by public school children in the museum’s Learning Through Art program. + Opening this fall: **By Way Of: Material and Motion** expands concepts of creating art with works that respond to influences outside the studio. Through January 12, 2025.



### COOPER HEWITT

#### SMITHSONIAN DESIGN MUSEUM

cooperhewitt.org

Daily, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

**An Atlas of Es Devlin**, showcasing her multimedia works, and **Give Me a Sign: The Language of Symbols** continue into summer.

The highly anticipated **Making Home—Smithsonian Triennial** explores how varying architectural and design perceptions of “home” affect the lives of the myriad ethnicities living in our nation today. Fall 2024–Fall 2025. + Search Cooper Hewitt via Bloomberg Connects to browse its collection and hear from the artists.



### MUSEUM OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

mcny.org Monday, Thursday, and Friday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.



Closed Tuesday and Wednesday.  
**Changing the Face of Democracy** honors the legacy of groundbreaking Black Congressmember Shirley Chisholm for her impact on issues such as rights for migrants, children, and women, including abortion and gender equality.

**This is New York: 100 Years in Art and Pop Culture**, displayed on a full floor, has been a yearlong bonanza across all media, celebrating the founding of the museum—especially through its 16-screen “You are Here” clips from hundreds of films. Through July 21. + Online and traveling exhibitions offer a wealth of opportunities to experience New York’s city-centric collections, anywhere.





**THE JEWISH MUSEUM**

thejewishmuseum.org Hours vary by day; Saturdays free.

**Frederick Keisler: Vision Machines.**

Lauded for his then-radical imaginings of domestic life, this “non-build architect” is represented by a newly realized reconstruction of his circular, modular Mobile Home Library, his eponymous Vision Machine that offers insight into how sight functions, from optics to dream content. April 23–July 28. + Check out the museum’s online offerings, which are all-encompassing, from audio and visual to educational.



**MUSEO DEL BARRIO**

elmuseo.org Thursday–Sunday, 10:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

**Amalia Mesa-Baines**, a Chicana artist, clinical psychologist, and educator—and the first Chicana recipient of a MacArthur genius grant—confronts feminist and racial themes in her decades-long **Archeology of Memory**. This exhibition depicts racist and gendered erasures of colonial repression, including works entitled *Venus Envy*, spread through four separate galleries. May 2–August 11.

**Cuerpo**, by award-winning performance artist **Carlos Martier**, addresses systems of oppression in Latinx communities. May 2–September 1. + Online, El Museo offers a bilingual digital guide and programs—in Spanish and English—as well as notifications of Family Days and art workshops.



# ISLAND

Cheers  
to Spring



**1305 Madison Ave**

**islandny.com**



by Joanna Cawley

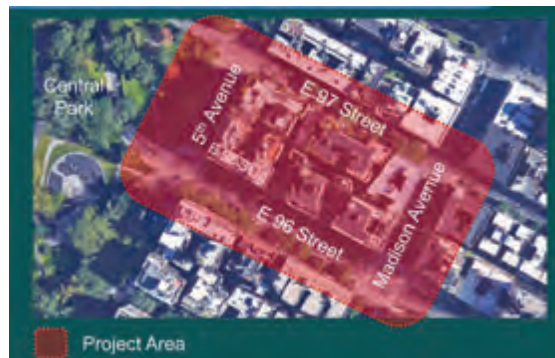
# EFFORTS TO MAKE 96TH STREET SAFER CONTINUE



COURTESY OF DOT

Regular readers of this newsletter know that the CHN and CIVITAS collaboration with resident stakeholders, District 4 Council Member Keith Powers, and Manhattan Department of Transportation (DOT) Commissioner Ed Pincar is addressing pedestrian safety concerns at the intersection of 96th Street and Madison Avenue and its surrounding area. DOT first reprogrammed traffic signaling to increase the time for pedestrians to cross. Upon examination, the increased times did not produce any appreciable changes, prompting our group to commission a study of the zone with a reputable urban design and transportation firm.

CHN and CIVITAS have been noting the traffic patterns and congestion at this intersection and the surrounding area for more than a year. Added to the study, new research provides insight into the seasonal traffic and congestion variations from the fluctuating number of cyclists, scooter-users, and users of



other alternative modes of transportation due to temperature changes. With results from the commissioned study and this past research, we can facilitate an ongoing DOT effort to improve pedestrian safety measures in the 96th and Madison/Park avenues area.

In order to yield a comprehensive account of the conditions, CHN and CIVITAS are appealing to residents in the immediate area for their insight and support of the study. Individuals, businesses, and others who support this advocacy receive a tax acknowledgment for the calendar year 2024 and membership in **PITCH! Pedestrian Improvements Take Carnegie Hill!**—a new initiative encompassing myriad streetscape advocacy efforts by CHN to undertake better pedestrian mobility in the neighborhood.

Grassroots community investment and personal input into our endeavors are invaluable. Firsthand accounts lend gravitas to the reports we submit and enhance planned safety measures the City and its relevant agencies undertake.



## STREETSCAPE TRAINEES GAIN WORK SKILLS

CHN's streetscape improvements are funded by a City Council Discretionary Award and facilitated by the Department of Youth and Community Development. In 2017, CHN launched a work training internship in partnership with the East Harlem nonprofit Getting Out and Staying Out (GOSO). Trainees receive mentoring from staff and CHN board members and learn translatable work skills. Beginning with graffiti removal and repainting of lamp posts, traffic posts and mailboxes in Carnegie Hill, trainees have the opportunity to advance by taking on data collection and research, volunteer leadership opportunities, operation and distribution management, and can pursue certification courses and academic degrees.



City Tree Guards.Com



We manage coops  
and condos throughout  
10028 and 10128.

Carnegie Hill  
is our neighborhood.  
Call us.

Daniel Wollman, CEO • 212-371-3010  
1501 Broadway, New York, NY 10036  
dwollman@gumleyhaft.com  
www.gumleyhaft.com

 **E.B. COHEN**

A Hilb Group Company

**LOCAL IN COMMITMENT,  
NATIONAL IN SCOPE.**

Experience the difference E.B. Cohen can make for you, your family, or your business. Whether it is personal, life, benefits, or commercial property & casualty, E.B. Cohen will serve as your trusted advisor.

For over 80 years, our associates have been providing clients with a caring and knowledgeable insurance experience.

**SERVICING CARNEGIE HILL SINCE 1983**

To learn more, call us now  
at 973-403-9500 or 212-977-9500.

101 Eisenhower Parkway Roseland, NJ 07068  
41 Madison Ave, 31st Floor, New York, NY 10010

**COHENINS.COM**



## WHITNEY TILSON, THE SAMARITAN

Imagine if, while you are watching the news on TV, you suddenly cannot believe your eyes: the man speaking to CNN’s Christiane Amanpour is your son. He is in Ukraine (wearing a patched uniform given to him by a commander), when he is supposed to be in New York City living on a tree-lined street next to Central Park. That was how the parents of Carnegie Hill resident Whitney Tilson discovered that their son had gone to the front line of the war zone to deliver much-needed goods and equipment to the soldiers.

“I hadn’t told my parents that I was in Ukraine so they wouldn’t worry,” Mr. Tilson said with a sly smile at his apartment shortly after he returned from his seven-day, 1,600-mile trip in February, his third trip to Ukraine in 12 months.

Growing up in Tanzania and Nicaragua, Mr. Tilson was influenced by his parents, who met in the Peace Corps and spent their lives on educational projects in developing countries. After graduating from Harvard College with a degree in international relations and Harvard Business School, Mr. Tilson first worked on educational reform and later changed his career to run a hedge fund for almost 18 years. He now writes and publishes investment newsletters to help people become better investors.

“I got the travel bug and the save-the-world bug from my parents,” he said with pride. “The more I do it, the more I love it, and so the more I do it.” **Over the past two years, Mr. Tilson has raised \$17M from about 500 people, mostly close friends, for his efforts in Ukraine.** “It is very expensive to be friends with you,” one of them joked.

Funds raised for Ukraine have been used to buy and deliver items ranging from hand warmers and winter coats to generators, ambulances (he bought 27 in Amsterdam and arranged for them to be delivered directly to the hospitals in need), and other vehicles.



Above, Christiane Amanpour and Whitney Tilson in Ukraine. Below, Whitney Tilson delivers a generator to Ukrainians.



“Many times in my life I have become outraged and/or inspired by something and gotten deeply involved,” he said. One case was close to home. At the beginning of Covid in 2020, when he saw field hospitals being built on the East Lawn of Central Park steps away from his apartment, Mr. Tilson drove to Costco to buy food for nurses and doctors and mobilized 50 volunteers to join him onsite. **For more than one month, Mr. Tilson, the “super volunteer,” worked 12 hours a day.** At the end of Covid, he was presented with a bronze statue for his service. The statue shows a man holding a sick person and at the bottom reads, **“Whitney Tilson ‘The Samaritan.’ ”**

When Mr. Tilson is not working to save the world, he can be seen in Central Park running with a group that includes Carnegie Hill residents, playing tennis, or picking up garbage. Once a year he attends the World’s Toughest Mudder, a 24-hour obstacle-course endurance race. He still holds the 50+ age group record achieved the year he turned 50.

Mr. Tilson and his wife, Susan, whom he met at Harvard, raised their three daughters, Alison, Emily, and Katharine, in Carnegie Hill. In 2002, when Alison was accepted at Nightingale, they moved the family here from the East 60s. “The change is night and day,” he said, commenting on how the family has benefitted from living next to Central Park. “We use the park every day.”

*The Art of Playing Defense*, one of four books Mr. Tilson has written, is about sharing what he has learned in life with others. He shared in the interview: “Use your good fortune to make the world a better place, spend as much time and money as you can doing things for others. Do something beyond just self-enrichment. It will enrich your life, make you happy.”



Whitney Tilson, fourth from left, with his Central Park running group.



# GLACE

GLACE BY NOGLU

1266 Madison Avenue | [www.glaceny.com](http://www.glaceny.com) | In-store + Online  
Winter Hours: Sun-Wed 1:30-8:30pm | Thur-Sat 1:30-9:00pm



YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD WINE BAR & BISTRO

91st & Madison Avenue | @elisbar91 • 646.755.3999

Live JAZZ from 5 o'clock on Friday and Saturday nights with Mason & The Boys

## CHRIS McLAUGHLIN

Newly elected CHN board member Chris McLaughlin remembers his mother, Joan McLaughlin (CHN board member 1995–2016), volunteering for the organization when he was growing up: “My mom would work on the table next to me going through piles of supplies, sticking stamps on envelopes, and counting raffle tickets, while I was doing homework,” he said. “Her involvement was a point of pride for her, and this neighborhood is very much a part of our family’s identity.”

**Mr. McLaughlin is co-owner with his father, Jay McLaughlin, of Island Restaurant on Madison Avenue,** where young Chris worked as a server before college and which, for almost four decades, has been a staple of the neighborhood. Many staff have been with the McLaughlins for over 20 years and play a critical role in making Island feel like a second home for its regulars. When asked about his favorite dishes growing up eating at Island, Mr. McLaughlin said, “I was a pasta-with-butter type of kid, but my daughters love shrimp cocktail, chicken Milanese, and milkshakes.”

Mr. McLaughlin grew up above the J. McLaughlin store, the eponymous clothing line co-founded by his father and his uncle Kevin in 1977. After graduating from Giunta Business School at Emory University in 2008, he joined Bloomingdale’s executive training program and became

a buyer. Seven years later, when his father retired from J. McLaughlin, the younger Mr. McLaughlin left Bloomingdale’s to help manage Island. Since then, they have been business partners in restaurants and real estate.



Chris McLaughlin and daughter Georgia

Eliza and Chris McLaughlin met during separate high school senior trips to the Bahamas in 2004. The couple married in 2014. They have two daughters: Charlotte (7) who attends the Spence School, and Georgia (5), who is a student at the Marymount School. The couple is expecting a baby boy in June.

**“I enjoy working with a collaborative group to benefit a collective interest,”** he said upon election to the board of CHN, adding that he would love to see more art installations on the Park Avenue malls in Carnegie Hill.

Currently, Chris is also a board member of his cooperative on Park Avenue, not far from Island, and he sits on a few committees of the Bridgehampton Club.



## MARGARET LOEB

“Imagine if on every block and a half there were a three-story-high sidewalk cell tower in Carnegie Hill. That might already be a reality if Carnegie Hill Neighbors had not launched an effort to rally community opposition to this plan.”

Margaret Loeb, a recently elected CHN board member, got to

know the organization through this effort. “It is a continuing fight. Our organization punches above its weight and is far more influential than one would expect. We’ve been very successful in garnering opposition to these towers—from neighbors, elected officials, and preservation organizations,” she said. **“I want to contribute to this incredibly important effort to protect the historic integrity of Carnegie Hill.** It takes grassroots awareness, action, and funding to engage the experts who can help. Residents need to understand the important efforts the association takes on.” Ms. Loeb participates in monthly calls among opposition leaders and concerned neighbors, helps with fund-raising, and builds community awareness.

Growing up in Scarsdale, New York, Ms. Loeb studied ballet. At Tulane University and Northwestern University, she studied English literature and journalism. She loves watching ballet and antiques—antique jewelry, porcelain, and silver are her passions. **“I like losing myself looking at something that’s beautiful, whether a building, art, jewelry, or interior design.”** In 2002, Ms. Loeb moved to a co-op on Park Avenue from Greenwich Village. “I fell in love with the beautiful courtyard garden the first time I walked into the building.” She currently sits on the board of her cooperative.

For more than two decades, Ms. Loeb worked at the management consulting firm McKinsey & Company, where she now serves as a senior advisor. She also counsels clients on communications programs for mergers and acquisitions and other transformation efforts through her own consultancy. Earlier in her career, she was a speechwriter for the CEO of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter and a staff reporter and editor for the *Wall Street Journal*.

Ms. Loeb lives with her partner, Eric Wahl, an ob-gyn with the Mount Sinai system, and their adopted Siamese cat, Simba. Ms. Loeb loves cats. She refers to Giselle, her adopted cat of 10 years that died last year at 18, as “the animal love of my life.”

# Table d'Hôte



Since 1978, Table d'Hote has been a part of the fabric of Carnegie Hill. Under the new ownership of Michael Barton, it will continue to offer good food, drink and cheer.

Please come see us soon.

Open: Tuesday – Sunday, 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
and 4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

(212) 348-8125 • [tabledhoterestaurant@gmail.com](mailto:tabledhoterestaurant@gmail.com)

## Geri Grobman

*Your Carnegie Hill Home Insider*

A native New Yorker who has called the Upper East Side home for the past 25 years.

### SPECIALIZING IN:

Real Estate Buying, Selling, Renting, Relocation, Staging, Home Evaluation, and more...



Reach Out for A Complementary Home Evaluation!



Geri Grobman

Lic. Associate RE Broker  
m 917.750.4441

[geri.grobman@corcoran.com](mailto:geri.grobman@corcoran.com)

*corcoran*

Real estate agents affiliated with The Corcoran Group are independent contractor sales associates and are not employees of The Corcoran Group. The Corcoran Group is a licensed real estate broker located at 590 Madison Ave, NY, NY 10022. Equal Housing Opportunity.

## Carousel of Languages™



NYC's Premier  
Foreign Language Program  
for Infants, Toddlers  
& Young Children



Give your child the  
proven brain-building benefits of  
early foreign language exposure ~  
and a passport to global citizenship!

Register today for the  
2024-25 Academic Year  
[info@carousellanguages.com](mailto:info@carousellanguages.com)  
212-501-8524

## Discover the World through Languages!



French ★ Spanish ★ Mandarin ★ English ★ Italian ★ German ★ Greek ★ Korean ★ Russian ★ Turkish



# COME TO OUR 2024 SPRING BENEFIT!

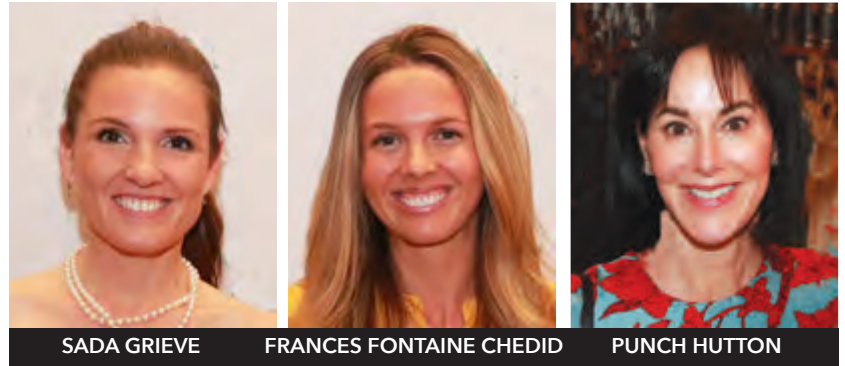
Please join us at the Carnegie Hill Neighbors 2024 Spring Benefit! We look forward to celebrating our incredible neighborhood on Thursday, May 16, with a terrific cocktail party. This year's event will be held at the elegant **James Burden Mansion** on East 91st Street and will be a wonderful opportunity to enjoy the company of friends and neighbors.

For the 2024 Spring Benefit, local Carnegie Hill caterer Yura will provide a sumptuous array of hors d'oeuvre and sweets. The soundtrack for the evening will be provided by a pianist from The Diller-Quaile School of Music, also local. There will not be a silent auction this year, and rather than recognizing one guest of honor, we've chosen to make this year's event a celebration of Carnegie Hill and all the people who make it so special.

Please scan the QR code below, which will take you to our website where you can register for the benefit, or visit [chneighbors.org](http://chneighbors.org). CHN members may have already received an invitation in the mail. We look forward to seeing you!



*Sada Grieve  
Frances Fontaine Chedid  
Punch Hutton*



SADA GRIEVE

FRANCES FONTAINE CHEDID

PUNCH HUTTON

PRENTISS MCCALL

## MEET THE 2024 SPRING BENEFIT CO-CHAIRS

You met this trio when they were introduced in this newsletter as new CHN board members. Dr. Sada Grieve joined the CHN Board of Directors in fall 2021; Frances Fontaine Chedid and Punch Hutton joined the board last June.

**Sada Grieve** established her concierge veterinary practice in Carnegie Hill in 2021. She (and sometimes her three young children) volunteered frequently at the CHN office and gradually became more involved in the organization, serving as co-chair of the 2023 Spring Benefit. In the spring 2022 newsletter she said, "I love our small community. It is so easy to meet people. My whole life is here." She and her husband, Gordon Grieve, moved to Carnegie Hill in 2015, about 30 blocks north from their previous apartment.

**Frances Fontaine Chedid** became an active member of CHN soon after she, her husband, Anthony Chedid, and three children moved to Carnegie Hill in 2018. Frances has encouraged community involvement by attracting young neighbors to join CHN. This past fall, she worked with CHN to expand the Spooktacular block closures on Halloween to provide a safer trick- or-treating experience for our youngest neighbors. With a background in marketing and international event production, she brings her experience as co-chair of CHN's last benefit to the 2024 Spring Benefit.

**Punch Hutton** is a writer, who began posting photos and telling stories about Carnegie Hill buildings and shops on CHN's Instagram account last year, portraying the energy and charm of our neighborhood. She hopes her communications will encourage residents to appreciate our special neighborhood and become active CHN members. Punch and her husband, John Hodges, moved to Carnegie Hill with their two children in 2019.



## 2024 SPRING BENEFIT COMMITTEE

- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| Natalie & Robert Agresta   | Tiffany Thomas Macedonia               |
| Talene & Eric Baroyan      | Eliza & Chris McLaughlin               |
| Jennie & Nishant Bhalla    | Nicole & Nic Melody                    |
| Marie Bowden               | Grace & Richard Myers                  |
| Sarah & Austin Bramwell    | Julia Peck & John Gardiner             |
| Heather & Philip Brandes   | Virginia Pitman                        |
| Ashley & Todd Carlson      | Lauren Poehl                           |
| Arlene Cruz                | Trish Preston                          |
| Sarah Dearie               | Molly & William Rand                   |
| Sasha Dizard Martin        | Christina von Riesenfelder & Kevin Roe |
| Jennifer & Johnson Garrett | Sara & Daniel Sailors                  |
| Diane Jaffee               | Laura & Jason Schwalbe                 |
| Julia & Nathan Kiel        | Finley & Patrick Shaw                  |
| Margaret Loeb              | Christine & George Stobely             |
|                            | Natalia Torres                         |
- List as of April 1*



The late architectural historian Christopher Gray proclaimed in his March 23, 2014, *New York Times* "Streetscape" column, titled "The Grandest Block," "It is difficult to think of a grander block than 91st Street from Fifth to Madison." Few in Carnegie Hill would argue with the designation; we welcome Mr. Gray's seal of approval.

The case for grandest block is supported by Mr. Gray's descriptions of outstanding houses on the block: When Andrew Carnegie bought the property on which to build his mansion (now the Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum), he purchased additional land across the street and next door with the intention of selling the extra lots to acquaintances, but only when he was satisfied with the buyers' building plans.

As a result of his precautions, we can now count among our architectural treasures his house, the Otto Kahn (1918), Burden (1905), Hammond (1903), and Trevor (1909) at Nos. 1, 7, 9, and 11, plus the handsome Spence School (1929) at No. 22, next to the Carnegie Mansion. All together they create a block of unparalleled grandeur.

## BURDEN MANSION, TRULY A LANDMARK

*This article first appeared in the Spring 2014 newsletter and has been slightly updated.*



Carnegie Hill has long been a film director's dream, and dozens of movies and TV shows, such as *Law & Order*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, and *Gossip Girls*, have been filmed here. Of all locations, few are as photogenic as the venue for CHN's May benefit: the James Burden Mansion at 7 East 91st Street. Cited by the Landmarks Preservation Commission as the "finest Beaux-Arts townhouse in the city," the mansion exudes an unparalleled sense of glamor and has a history reaching back to the Gilded Age.

The Burden has been the site of CHN's Spring Benefit before, as has the neo-Renaissance mansion next door, built for Otto Kahn in 1918. Since 1934, the Kahn has been the home of the city's oldest private girls' school, Convent of the Sacred Heart. In 1940 the school annexed the Burden Mansion, which was commissioned

in 1901 by William D. Sloane and his wife, Emily (a daughter of William K. Vanderbilt), as a wedding gift for their daughter Adele and steel manufacturer James A. Burden Jr. The mansion was designed by the firm of Warren & Wetmore, architects of over 300 prominent buildings, including Grand Central Terminal. John Jacob Astor VI, who had purchased the house from Burden's widow, sold it to the school, and for a quarter-century the mansion, known as the Duchesne Residence School, offered a two-year program of post-graduate study. When Duchesne closed in 1966, Sacred Heart's Lower School assumed occupancy.

**In 1974, the Kahn and Burden mansions (along with the block's Hammond House and Carnegie Mansion) were designated New York City historical landmarks.** Two years later, the third-floor ballroom of the Burden, modeled on the Hall of Mirrors at Versailles, underwent a discreet restoration.

Today, the ballroom (pictured on page 16), which had hosted such diverse luminaries as

Giacomo Puccini and Mark Twain, is the star of many school events, as well as outside parties. In 2011, neighborhood celebrity and Sacred Heart alumna Lady Gaga (Stefani Germanotta) chose the ballroom as the backdrop for her Thanksgiving television special with Tony Bennett.

This spring, along with the adjoining reception room and banquet hall, the ballroom—reached by a soaring spiral staircase capped by a Tiffany glass dome that will assure Hollywood entrances for all who attend—will once again assume a starring role as the glorious setting for our 2024 Spring Benefit.





by  
Lo van der Valk



## HUGE HIGH-RISE APPROVED FOR 94<sup>TH</sup> STREET MID-BLOCK

**A** 40-story residential tower, to be located entirely on the north side of the mid-block of 94th Street between Second and Third avenues, is made possible by the concurrent change in zoning for the mid-section of the block. This had been zoned for light manufacturing (M1-4), which is low-scale. The change in zoning not only converted it to residential, but allowed for the highest residential density possible, meaning i.e., the highest as-of-right floor area (or FAR of 10). Such an increase in allowed residential floor area by changes in zoning is referred to as “upzoning.” Upzonings in the UES are rare, but recently are being favored by the city as the most direct route to increase the stock of affordable housing. Such is this case

The city passed the Mandatory Inclusionary Housing (MIH) zoning amendment in 2016, which requires developments in newly upzoned districts to make 25 percent of the housing units permanently affordable. In return, such projects receive a 20 percent floor area increase, (to FAR of 12) enabling much taller buildings. Thus the incentive was strong for the developer, the elected officials, and city agencies to break with the long established rule of restricting mid-block construction to low-scale structures.

**This project and the issues it raises are of interest to CHN because of its proximity to Carnegie Hill, our mission to protect the low-scale mid-blocks, and the adverse precedent this sets.**

We question whether alternatives were adequately explored. It would have been more logical to replicate the

low-scale of the contiguous northern half of the mid-block (where the entrances face 95th Street), which is consistent with the low-scale mid-block zoning (R8 and R8B) that prevails for almost all of the UES and Carnegie Hill. This would also have conformed to the general rule going back to the city’s first Zoning Resolution in 1916 that assigns low-scale to the narrow street mid-blocks and tall buildings to the avenues, thus ensuring optimal access to light and air. Still no mitigations have been offered for the blocking of sunlight to the mid-block buildings in the contiguous half-block to the north. These low-rise buildings (nos. 208 to 234) are all, except for one, five stories. Together they total over 200 units; about half face south, and they will be cast in deep shadows for much of the year.

In summary: The developer proposed a huge 204-foot-wide tower rising 46 stories, or 484 feet, located entirely in the mid-block. It would yield 452 units, of which 113 would be affordable. The proposal, because of its inclusion of affordable housing, sailed through the city’s lengthy review process (ULURP) although Community Board 8 did urge a height limit of 355 feet.

Recognizing the many concessions made to the developer plus the opposition of the neighbors and others, the district’s City Council Member Julie Menin negotiated a 70-foot cut-back in height to 414 feet (to likely 40 stories) and the recalibration of floor plans yielding more total apartment units from 452 to 487, and more affordable units from 113 to 146 (or 30 percent of the total).

HILL WEST ARCHITECTS

### RAISING THE RESIDENTIAL FAR CAP TO BUILD HIGHER IS BEING HOTLY DEBATED BY STATE LEGISLATURE

The cap for residential FAR (the Floor Area Ratio that determines the floor area that is allowed to be built) was set by the state at 12 in 1953 and has been challenged for the last five years at budget time. Because of the push for affordable housing to address the housing crisis there has been serious talk among legislators of raising the cap from 12 to 14 or higher.

CHN is working with our preservation colleagues to limit the extent of any cap increase. We agree that more flexibility in the conversion of commercial to residential buildings should allow buildings with FARs greater than 12 to be converted. But CHN is against raising the FAR cap because it is not clear provisions will be included to ensure adequate levels of affordable housing. Instead we fear it will lead to the demolition of existing affordable units to make room for taller buildings.

# OBJECTIONS & OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH ZONING

SUSAN HOEHN



There are zoning changes currently before the City Council meant to increase economic productivity. Some of these changes are seen by many as ill advised, such as expanding the use of homes as service locations. One example is the expansion of the number of barber chairs allowed in an apartment residence from two to four or more. CHN has objected to such expanded uses because they would increase foot traffic, pose security risks, and could reduce available housing. Another change to foster greater productivity is to allow corner buildings on major residential avenues such as Park and Fifth to have commercial establishments. But this can result in clutter and diminish the historic character of the blocks.

By far our greatest objection concerns the plan to increase the commercial uses permitted on Madison Avenue. In 1973, the City Planning Commission created the Special Madison Avenue Preservation District that strictly limited the commercial uses allowed—consistent with the shopping venues we now see that make the avenue iconic. The new amendment would allow uses that are currently barred, such as video arcades and dance halls. We are seeking to retain the restricted uses on Madison Avenue as envisioned more than 50 years ago, which have served the avenue’s appeal so well.

SUSAN HOEHN



## NEW OWNER FOR 60 EAST 93rd STREET MANSION

This individual landmark (pictured left), designed in the French neo-classical style by the eminent architect John Russell Pope (designer of the Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D.C.), was recently bought. The building is undergoing a restoration. No great changes are being sought.

## APPLICATION FOR 1149 PARK AVENUE

Plans for a major renovation have been approved by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) for a couple that recently bought this townhouse. These plans include a very tasteful realignment of the rear facade that will allow more light and air for them and their neighbors. One major issue has been the expansion of the top floor and the rooftop mechanicals. In spite of LPC approval, the owners have been willing to discuss with the neighbors in the apartment building to the north (1155 Park Avenue) ways to increase access to light and air by repositioning some of the mechanicals. Such changes would also lessen the visible impact on Park Avenue.

ROBERT A. M. STERN ARCHITECTS



## 1083 FIFTH AVENUE UPDATE

CHN did not agree with the outright rejection by CB8 of the proposed front entry enclosure for this Beaux-Arts-style house, which did look unwelcoming and extended too far into the public sidewalk. CHN told the Department of Transportation (DOT), which oversees sidewalks, that we could agree to granting the revocable consent if the applicant agreed to reduce the front enclosure to extend no more than 8.5 feet from its front lot line. This would be only 18 inches beyond the planters of the apartment building to its south, 1080 Fifth Avenue. The applicant did pull back its proposed extension from 11 to 10 feet, but declined to make any further concessions.



by Joanna Cawley and Simeon Bankoff

# TIMELINE: CHN VS. CELL TOWER PLAN



## RIGHT TIME, WRONG PLACE. GOOD INTENT, BAD DESIGN

The harm Carnegie Hill historic districts face if cell tower installation approvals proceed is both willful and avoidable. See below, the forceful impact when resident stakeholders join CHN advocacy efforts.

### DECEMBER 2022

CHN testifies at Community Board 8 that sidewalk infrastructure exclusive to cell/broadband needs compromises the visual context and considerations of scale mandated for historic designation, and questions the claims to local need and access. Community Board 8 agrees.

### JANUARY 2023

CHN forms a stakeholder coalition to oppose tower installation permits published on a city map. Early community investment advanced strategic outreach and decisive action, capturing city, state, and federal officials' attention and support, that endures still, today.

### APRIL 2023

CHN contacts Congressman Jerry Nadler for federal assistance. His plea for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to review the potential environmental impact to Carnegie Hill landmarks activates public access to plans, multiple forums for discussion, and a public comment platform.

### NOVEMBER 2023

Findings from NYS Assembly Member Alex Bore's Alternative Solutions report show wifi/broadband expansions can preserve historic resources. Swapping existing street furniture with same-scale contextual designs, multi-purpose and tech enabled, costs less, maintains the original footprint, and honors community interests.

### MARCH 2024

Vindicating CHN efforts, five towers initially proposed in Carnegie Hill vanish from project maps. Four are pegged for further review, and one receives eligibility for increased protections. Relocation rumors circulate.

### APRIL 2024

A new site appears in Carnegie Hill causing the coalition to redouble efforts, bracing for "tower whack a mole" and secure in our resolve to continue opposing cell tower additions in Carnegie Hill.

## THE COALITION CONTINUES ITS WORK TO STOP THE TOWERS.

It is actively engaged with elected officials and local stakeholders to rally for more protections for Carnegie Hill and to deliberate issues of scale, context, utility, and necessity while citywide infrastructure additions continue.



# APPEAL: SUPPORT CHN TOWER OPPOSITION

## CELL TOWERS DESTROY VISUAL CONTINUITY AND CONTEXT OF HISTORIC DISTRICTS

Objections to cell tower additions are numerous and diverse. Most objections align with our campaign; a few do not. None of that matters—this is all you need to know:

### Historic Preservation Guidelines State:

Visually coherent streetscapes create the “sense of place” that distinguishes historic districts.

Sidewalk additions must uphold the context and scale of surrounding historic architecture.

### Outreach Assistance:

Educate friends and neighbors on our work and the issue.  
Pen letters to elected officials to request tower removals.

### Grassroots Advocacy:

Attend rallies and other in-person events.  
Volunteer assistance with mailings and other outreach.

### Scan the QR code to take a Short Survey:

Rank from 1 to 5 your experience of three statements.  
Use the text box to provide additional comments if you wish.

Thank you, in advance, for your continued support!



## DR. SADA GRIEVE Concierge Veterinarian



### Specializing in:

- Wellness and preventative health
- International health certificates
- Priority/urgent care including:
  - Ear infections
  - Gastrointestinal upset
  - Skin irritation
- Concierge services (liason with specialists)
- Sunset services
  - Hospice care
  - Pain management
  - Gentle euthanasia

(917) 727-3330  
sg@drsadagrieve.com



HOUSE CALLS ONLY



## CENTRAL PARK SIDEWALK BEING RESTORED

Carnegie Hill residents consider Central Park their backyard and have been watching with interest the restoration of the Fifth Avenue perimeter sidewalk. The stretch south of 94th Street has been completed with the last two blocks to 96th Street to be finished soon. The long term plan is to restore all 108 blocks of the Central Park perimeter sidewalks with traditional hexagonal blocks and paving blocks in patterns, plus some surface adjustments for accessibility.

The restoration is a joint project between the city and the Central Park Conservancy. The Perimeter Association, a program of the Women's Committee of the Conservancy, is led by co-chairs Margo Nederlander and Sarah Kurita. The association is overseeing the sidewalk restoration along with continuing the repair of perimeter benches and care of trees near the Central Park wall.



### 96TH STREET LIBRARY SPORTS NEW TREE GUARDS

After the lengthy renovation of the 96th Street New York Public Library was completed last spring, the tree guards that CHN had installed around two vulnerable trees years ago needed to be replaced. With a grant from City Council Member Keith Powers, CHN has remedied that with two handsome new tree guards.

Tree Care Committee co-chairs Ginger Pitman, pictured left in her orange CHN vest, and Julia Bradford, right, show how to aerate the soil, which allows trees to absorb more nutrients and the beds to absorb more rain-water to be absorbed.

Thank You

**SAFETY PATROL  
AND GRAFFITI  
REMOVAL  
PROGRAM  
SUPPORTERS**

If your building is not listed below, please ask your board to consider participating. There is a nominal fee per apartment unit per year. Call CHN at 212-996-5520 to arrange for our team to tell your board and managing agent about our Safety Patrol Program.

**FIFTH AVENUE**

1050 1107 1133 1150  
1056 1115 1136 1158  
1060 1120 1140 1165  
1080 1125 1148 1170

**MADISON AVENUE**

1261, 1326, 1361

**PARK AVENUE**

1040 1082 1128 1175  
1045 1088 1130 1185  
1049 1095 1133 1192  
1050 1100 1150 1199  
1060 1105 1155 1220  
1065 1111 1160  
1070 1112 1165  
1075 1125 1172

**LEXINGTON AVENUE**

1435

**EAST 86th STREET**

25, 49, 55

**EAST 87th STREET**

21, 47, 153

**EAST 88th STREET**

2, 4, 5, 19, 40, 47, 60, 141

**EAST 89th STREET**

45, 50

**EAST 90th STREET**

14, 21, 51, 115

**EAST 91st STREET** 15, 124

**EAST 92nd STREET** 46

**EAST 93rd STREET** 70, 125 134

**EAST 94th STREET** 64

**EAST 95th STREET**

3, 4, 17, 19, 27

**EAST 96th STREET**

8, 9, 16, 17, 60, 70

by George Stonbely, Safety Patrol Co-chair



# PROTECTING CARNEGIE HILL FOR 30 YEARS

The CHN Safety Patrol was launched in 1993 in response to an increase in crime throughout the city. Our partners at the NYPD's 19th Precinct were equipped with new technologies such as COMPSTAT, and were able to create predictive crime patterns and anticipate problem areas.

On the recommendation of the NYPD, CHN obtained the now famous CHN Safety Patrol SUV, which has sequencing amber lights and tours the Carnegie Hill Neighbors catchment area from 86th to 98th streets, and from Fifth to Third avenue—an area that includes about 60,000 residents. **The map at right shows stops made by guards in an 11-hour period.**

Operating 365 days a year, in a changing pattern of hours to keep criminals off balance, special attention is paid during school dismissal hours. In addition to being an extra pair of eyes for the NYPD in the area, the patrol reports on quality of life issues, such as aggressive panhandlers, graffiti, street-light outages, malfunctioning traffic lights, damaged sidewalks, potholes, blocked or damaged street signs and bus shelters, unauthorized postings, abandoned vehicles, and damaged fire hydrants.



The CHN Safety Team includes guard Cody Slaughter, Molly Rand, Mark Goldsmith, Joanna Cawley, and George Stonbely.

**Much has changed since 1993.** As the CHN Safety Patrol passes its 30th year, crime has dropped to historic lows, and we and our service provider, Brosnan Security, maintain the presence of the patrol as a strong deterrence to crime in our neighborhood.

The CHN office staff, led by Executive Director Joanna Cawley and Safety Program Director Nina Whiting, are the foundation of our safety efforts, as well as CHN board members Mark Goldsmith, Safety Committee co-chair, Molly Rand, and Susan Gottridge, who regularly attends the 19th Precinct Community Affairs meetings.

**CHN also maintains an effective graffiti-removal program.** Any graffiti featuring territorial markings by gangs must be removed quickly; once a gang establishes "ownership" of a neighborhood, its next move is to intimidate shopkeepers into protection schemes.

Thank you to those who call the office with information and reports of crimes. It is very important that all crimes, no matter how inconsequential, be reported to the NYPD. Without those reports, the NYPD is unable to deploy its resources efficiently. Thank you, also, to the buildings, listed at left, that help fund the CHN Safety Patrol. The cost is very modest and is an investment in the safety and security of our neighborhood.

**CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS SECURITY PATROL, 365 DAYS A YEAR 845-263-9129**

**Patrol Car: Day shift daily 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Night shift: Monday to Friday, 7:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.**

## THRILLERS,

**ERIK LARSON** is a superstar at blending historical narratives with thriller-like propulsion. In ***The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War***, he weaves a narrative around the Civil War in his gripping account of the chaotic months between Lincoln's election and the Confederacy's shelling of Fort Sumter. Told in masterful prose that is as fascinating contextually as it is compulsively written, this is history for all readers. Personalized copies available at The Corner Bookstore.

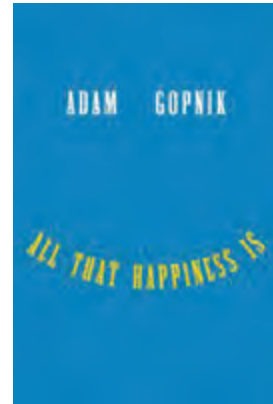
Set in New York City in the 1940s, **ELLEN FELDMAN's** ***The Trouble with You*** is the story of a young woman who was raised for a career as a wife and mother but discovers when she gets a job as a secretary to the "queen" of soaps that she likes working. Through her friendship with an actress in the series and a man who writes them, Fanny comes face to face with the blacklist. Ultimately, she must decide between playing it safe or doing what she knows is right.

The day after Thanksgiving in 1990, 33-year-old **ED BRADY** got a phone call from a mysterious woman claiming to be his mother. It took some convincing for him to come to terms with his lineage. ***Well... Isn't That Interesting: A Memoir*** is a heartfelt investigation into the meaning of family and one man's capacity to embrace his new-found relations while reaffirming his deep love and respect for the mother and father who raised him.

When Gabriella Umbrella visits her grandmother's garden, she discovers the most peculiar new friend—an injured kookaburra bird named Coco. Soon, Gabriella learns an invaluable lesson about helping others caring for our world in **GABÉ HIRSCHOWITZ's** children's book ***The Adventures of Gabriella Umbrella: Grandmother's Garden***.



## KILLERS, GEMS AND FRIENDS



When David Webb came to New York, he was captivated by the museums and fashions of the day. In his only published article "Why Not Hang Gems?" in 1963, he wrote that jewelry deserved to be regarded as art and collected by museums. That conviction fuels **RUTH PELTASON's** ***The Art of David Webb***. Here is jewelry shown as art in more than 120 images, resounding proof that jewelry is both art and culture.

Our society is obsessed with achievement. The result, **ADAM GOPNIK** points out in ***All That Happiness Is: Some Words on What Matters***, is a rat maze. The only way out, he argues, is to choose accomplishment over achievement. Achievement is the completion of a task imposed from outside, accomplishment is the end point of an engulfing activity one engages in for its own sake, and the contentment that flows from accomplishment is available to all of us. *All That Happiness Is* offers timeless wisdom against the grain.

Manhattan Assistant District Attorney Linda Haley is awakened early one morning by two police officers at her door. She has no idea that her husband has been living a secret life during his daily commute from Scarsdale into the city. Now Guy is the prime suspect in a brutal murder—and Guy has disappeared. **DEBBIE ABITT's** ***The Man on the Train*** careens from a bedroom community to the beaches of eastern Long Island to a suburban train station, where a killer hiding in plain sight waits to exact a final revenge.

In **E.L. SHEN's** ***Maybe It's a Sign***, seventh-grader Freya June Sun has always believed in Chinese superstitions, and ever since her dad's death, she believes that her father has sent her a sign to concentrate on playing the viola. Then Freya is partnered with Gus Choi, a goofy and super annoying classmate, for a home economics project. To her surprise, she finds that she may love baking more than music. With the help of her family, Gus, and two maybe-magical birds, Freya learns that to be her own person, she might just have to make her own luck.



# The Hunt Team

## Carnegie Hill

Real Estate Specialist  
& Neighbor Since 2001

- Knowledge
- Experience
- Results!

Real estate agents affiliated with The Corcoran Group are independent contractors, sales associates and/or employees of The Corcoran Group. The Corcoran Group is a licensed real estate broker located at 600 Madison Ave., NY, NY 10065.

*corcoran*

Holly Hunt

Licensed as Holly S Hunt  
Licensed Associate Real Estate Broker  
o 212.323.3800  
holly.hunt@corcoran.com



**DSF**  
Home

## YOUR GIFT GIVING DESTINATION

will offer **FREE SHIPPING** to the Hamptons  
from Memorial Day to Labor Day!

Visit us at 1228B Madison Avenue  
between 88th and 89th

Email us at  
customer@dsfhome.nyc

Call us at 212-987-1228

FOLLOW US  
ON INSTAGRAM



dale cohen designstudio | A GENTLEMAN'S HOME



AWARD WINNING BESPOKE DESIGN  
SPECIALIZING IN DESIGN FOR MEN + SERVING FAMILIES

RESIDENTIAL RENOVATION + INTERIOR DESIGN + FURNISHINGS

new york city | hamptons | connecticut

www.dalecohendesignstudio.com | IG dalecohendesignstudio | info@dalecohendesignstudio.com



by Bobbie Leigh

# DINE, SIP, SAVOR—

**BONJOUR MIXEUR**, 1436 Lexington Avenue at 94th Street, has a huge menu of eclectic and wholesome sweet and savory fare. Highlights are pancakes, Belgian waffles, and French toast, along with sandwiches and salads. Among the wide range of crepes, don't miss out on the smoked salmon, spinach, and cream cheese crepe. One of the more exotic smoothies here is one made with cantaloupe, banana, and fig. 212-933-4626 [www.bonjourmixeur.com](http://www.bonjourmixeur.com). Daily 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

**T-TIME BOBA**, 100 East 96th Street, is a Taiwanese-style bubble tea shop with a huge teddy bear perched on a cozy, window-seat bench. The obliging staff will sweeten your tea just as you like it. Best bet is the brown sugar brulee tea. 646-634-5038 Monday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Sunday 11:00 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

**LA BOMBONIERA**, 1378 Lexington Avenue at 91st Street, is a café and wine bar serving Italian coffees, paninis, and sweets (bomboniera means a box of sweets). At twilight, this inviting corner café transforms into an inviting wine bar where you will find a perfect Bellini (prosecco and peach puree) or mimosa and a tempting assortment of Italian wines and beers. 646-370-6302 [labombonieranyc.com](http://labombonieranyc.com) Monday–Friday 7:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m., Weekends 8:00 a.m.–8:00 p.m.

**BALILA LEBANESE RESTAURANT**, 1640 Third Avenue, is a simple storefront haven for Lebanese specialties ranging from falafel, shawarma (beef, chicken, and veggies), and tasty grilled eggplant. One takeout favorite is vegetarian grape leaves. The baklava is authentic, as are all the freshly made pita sandwiches. It is surprising to find so many Lebanese specialties in such a fairly small space. 212-535-5700. Open daily 10:00 a.m.–9:00 p.m.



# AND LOOK TERRIFIC

**DOROTHY'S DAY SPA**, 1379 Lexington Avenue at 91st Street, has moved from its subterranean space to a sunny storefront. This venerable day spa still offers its much praised facials, massages, and beauty treatments. What is new is the staff has been trained to use skin care products from Biologique Recherche, a first for Carnegie Hill. 212-410-0089 [dorothysdayspa.com](http://dorothysdayspa.com) Tuesday–Friday 9:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Saturday 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m.

## OPENING SOON...

**AUX MERVEILLEUX DE FRED**, 1291 Lexington Avenue (86th/87th streets), will showcase the traditional artisan pastries of Frederic Vaucamp, renowned in France especially for his inimitable light and airy desserts. The original merveilleux was a meringue chocolate whipped cream confection coated with dark chocolate shavings. Now it has many new delectable variations and sizes. Everything is made on-site. Outdoor seating will be available. [auxmerveilleux.com](http://auxmerveilleux.com)

**CATCH & CHOP**, 1600 Third Avenue at 90th Street, will offer a classic steakhouse and seafood menu. Two cousins, Ras Sujak and Emir Mrkulic, who also own the Siena Café at 1580 Third Avenue, are in charge. They have a new head chef who managed several of Bobby Van's steakhouses in New York City and are planning a menu that will appeal to different palates. Count on classics, farm-to-table vegetable specialties, and seasonal and weekly specials.

**TAIM**, 1571 Third Avenue (88th/89th streets) in the former Wankel's building, is the newest outpost of the highly rated Mediterranean chain. The Taim (which means tasty in Hebrew) in lower Manhattan was rated one of the best restaurants in the West Village. The brainchild of Elat Admony, a trained chef, and her husband Stefan Nafzinger, the cozy new restaurant will offer customized bowls, pitas, and salads, and many other healthy options. [taimkitchen.com](http://taimkitchen.com)

Want to have more fun?  
 Want to make new friends?  
**JOIN OUR LIVELY SENIORS!**

For more info, see [carnegiehillvillage.org](http://carnegiehillvillage.org)

**CARNEGIE HILL VILLAGE**  
*Helping seniors stay connected and at home*

**“Carnegie Hill, ranked one of NYC’s quietest neighborhoods”**

- *Brick Underground, 2024*

18 years in real estate, 30 years in marketing,  
 Carnegie Hill resident since 1981. Experience matters.

Patricia A. Ellis  
 Licensed Real Estate Salesperson  
[pellis@elliman.com](mailto:pellis@elliman.com)

 **DouglasElliman**  
 917-359-6814



Serving the Upper East Side  
 community for over 25 years!

Offering Pilates & GYROTONIC® exercise

Privates and Small Group Classes

Pilates Teacher Training

Workshops & More!

Our 92nd Street location has MOVED  
 to 94th Street!

1435 Lexington Ave.

Thank you to our community for all of your support!

**MIND your BODY**  
 GYROTONIC®

- Free Delivery
- Charge Account Available
- Phone Orders Taken
- Email us Your Order



**Lane Farms Market**

1391 Madison Avenue  
 New York, NY 10029  
 Tel: (212) 831-5014  
 (212) 860-9804  
 Fax: (212) 426-1893  
[www.lanefarmsmarket.com](http://www.lanefarmsmarket.com)

[lanefarmsmarket@yahoo.com](mailto:lanefarmsmarket@yahoo.com)

**SSAT, ISEE, SAT Tutor**

EXPERIENCED PRIVATE SCHOOL TEACHER  
 WITH 20 YEARS EXPERIENCE

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

**MICHAEL KLEBNIKOV**

[klebnikovm@gmail.com](mailto:klebnikovm@gmail.com)  
 References

ALEXANDRA OURUSOFF

**BOOKKEEPING**

small businesses, non profits and individuals

bill paying

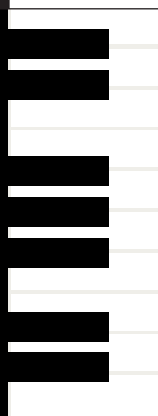
budgeting

general money matters

records organization and management

[aliourue@gmail.com](mailto:aliourue@gmail.com)

**Experienced Piano Teacher (Juilliard BM/MM) is accepting new piano students. Will travel to your home. All ages welcome. Please email [pianonyc@gmail.com](mailto:pianonyc@gmail.com)**



**DQ**  
*The Diller-Quaile School of Music*

Since 1920, the School has offered a learning environment where music flourishes in all its aspects, enriching the lives of students of all ages and cultural backgrounds.

**BEGIN YOUR MUSICAL JOURNEY  
 CONTINUE YOUR STUDIES  
 PURSUE A PASSION**

In-person and distance learning programs are available.

[www.Diller-Quaile.org](http://www.Diller-Quaile.org)

24 East 88th Street, New York, NY 10028 • (212) 264-1400





by Mitzi Eberhart

# WHAT HISTORIC BUILDINGS ARE THEIR HOMES?

**SALTY AND HENRIETTA** exemplify canine loyalty. Ever since pal Kosti at Jerome Florist confirmed that Rosa Rubignosa inspired their building's floral ornamentation, they only stop to smell roses.

**CLEOPATRA LIMOUSINE**, seen surveying the Hellenistic double pilasters and rounded arches on her building façade, surmises that Naples-born architect Anthony Campagna prophesied her arrival.

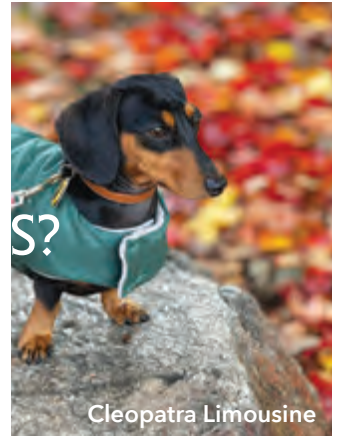
**RUBY** scouted this location for her closeup so as not to be upstaged by the limestone rams and lion motif on her building's facade.

### NEW TREE BED SIGN

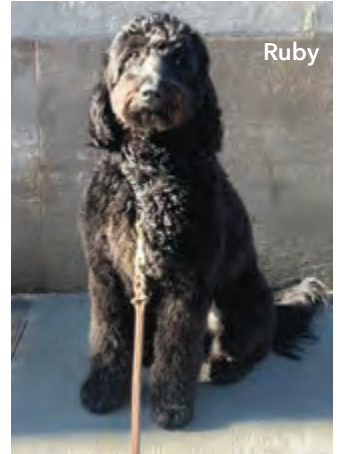
Interested in purchasing new signs for your building's tree bed? [info@chneighbors.org](mailto:info@chneighbors.org), or call 212- 996-5520



Salty and Henrietta



Cleopatra Limousine



Ruby



Dog owners: Send us a photo and bio of your pup. Be sure to include its name and building address. [info@chneighbors.org](mailto:info@chneighbors.org)

**Brosnan Risk Consultants is a leading nationwide provider of security services trusted by the world's largest brands.**

#### WHY CHOOSE BROSNAN?

For over 25 years, Brosnan has leveraged evolving technologies, experienced security professionals and data to reduce organizational risk to clients and mitigate issues before they become threats. Family-owned and operated, the company now helps clients secure their world across 45 states and over 500 cities.

Brosnan's patented Smart Security Solutions include a network of vetted security officers who can deploy for permanent, temporary and emergency placements. Field officers are supported by Brosnan's world-class global security operations center (GSOC) at the company's headquarters in New York. The GSOC provides advanced monitoring capabilities, strategic and tactical situational awareness, real-time crisis management and thoughtful risk mitigation.

#### Our Services

- ARMED & UNARMED SECURITY OFFICERS
- OFF-DUTY POLICE
- EMERGENCY RESPONSE
- INVESTIGATIONS

email [info@brosnanrisk.com](mailto:info@brosnanrisk.com) or call 800-590-2180



**S. FELDMAN HOUSEWARES**  
Since 1929  
1304 Madison Ave @ 92nd St  
212 289 7367 • Open 7 Days

**Order Online!**  
**Free Same-Day Delivery**  
[www.sfeldman.com](http://www.sfeldman.com)



# LOVING AND LOSING FLACO: HOW A RARE BIRD CHARMED NEW YORKERS

**B**y the time Flaco, the celebrity Eurasian eagle-owl that escaped from the Central Park Zoo, landed on my air conditioning unit last November, I was already a devoted fan. I was visiting him daily in Central Park and had joined X (formerly Twitter) for the sole purpose of receiving updates from Manhattan Bird Alert, the viral account that is a clearinghouse for NYC birders.

But no amount of peering into branches or online scrolling prepared me for the experience of being face to face with this *rara avis*. As soon as he felt my presence at the window, he wheeled his head around and fixed me with his giant, tangerine eyes on me. I didn't dare to breathe or blink.

**How many humans, I wondered, has he seen eye to eye?**

For the past ten days, I and many others had been deeply worried about Flaco. After eight months on the loose, he had abandoned the relative safety of Central Park for the East Village. And now, **of all the AC units in all the courtyards in all of Manhattan, Flaco had flown to mine.**

He stayed there all day, resting in the meager warmth of the November sun. When evening came, he went through his pre-flight checklist: stretching his wings up overhead like the gull-wing doors of a DeLorean, regurgitating a large pellet, and stepping daintily to the edge of the unit to relieve himself. Then, he swooped silently off into the night. (Readers may watch all this at the YouTube account @flaconfifth.)

Flaco never came back to my AC unit, but he popped up in many other places. He had a longstanding penchant for New York's built landscape, where he could rest unmolested on construction scaffolding, fire escapes, and water towers. Many of his favorite spots were in Carnegie Hill and above.



SARAH BRAMWELL



DAVID LEI



BIRD CENTRAL PARK ON X

What accounts for Flaco's peculiar charisma? He was, of course, physically beautiful, with those inquisitive, predatory eyes and vermiculate feathers that he preened and fluffed to great effect. He was also preternaturally curious. He enjoyed seeing and being seen, and perched in heavily-trafficked trees where he could do both.

But something more than this was at work in our connection to Flaco: a shared consciousness. During his glorious, all-too-brief year of freedom, **Flaco became a bona fide New Yorker, going through all the rites of passage:** evading the NYPD, surviving in an inhospitable urban jungle, tolerating bumptious neighbors, exploring different neighborhoods, seeking a mate, peeping at fellow city dwellers through rear windows, and availing himself of Central Park's many arboreal and architectural glories. We felt a genuine kinship with Flaco: Like so many of us, he was not native, but with grit and determination took full advantage of the freedom and opportunity of the Big Apple. He was rewarded with glamorous high perches, an ample supply of rats, and the love and respect of his fellow New Yorkers.

Although his story of survival ended abruptly with his death on February 23 of this year, when suffering from rat poisoning and a pigeon herpes virus he crashed into an Upper West Side window, **Flaco's memory will live on.** A petition on Change.org calls for a bronze memorial statue. The Bird Safe Buildings Act has been renamed the "FLACO" Act. Flaco was just what our pandemic-battered city needed: a symbol of freedom and resilience. We will sorely miss him and the enchantment he brought to our lives.



by Julia Bradford

# INVOLVE TEENS AND CHILDREN IN TREE CARE

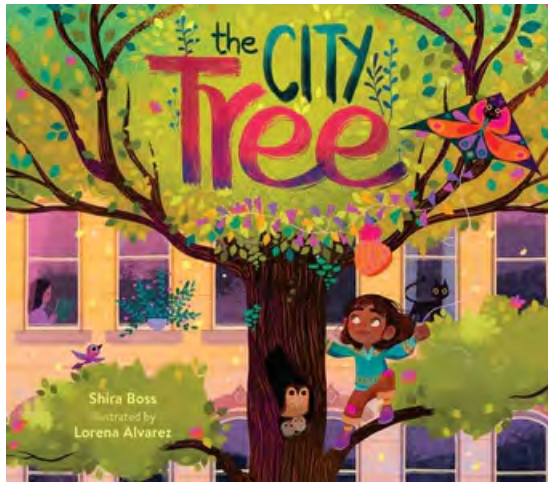


Our climate is changing. What this means for our future is unsettling for adults and children alike. One bright spot that allows us to “think globally and act locally” is our urban forest, which includes both park trees and street trees throughout our city. **These trees really make a difference by providing multiple benefits:** They lower the temperature of streets and buildings in their vicinity, their leaves clean the air, they improve the health of those who can look at them from their apartments and homes, and their roots absorb rainwater that might otherwise overwhelm our sewers. Could promoting tree stewardship among children and teens make a positive impact on climate change?

A recent picture book by Shira Boss, *The City Tree*, documents how a tree planted on a treeless block can change the experience of neighborhood children and could be a catalyst in transforming the neighborhood. In the book, a little girl named Dani hears birds rather than traffic. The tree’s leaves give her the weather report and absorb the exhaust grime. The tree gives her comfort and safety. Two vivid illustrations show the tree under attack from careless people and Dani’s response, which turns the tree bed into a garden with a Curb Your Dog sign!

The last four pages of the book offer explicit information about street trees: how they help people and how we can help them. These pages feel like a **Trees New York Citizen Pruner** course for our younger generation, who do worry about the environment. These pages inspire everyone—children, teens, and adults—to become more involved in caring for the trees on their block, at their schools, in their neighborhoods, and in their city.

**What can children do?** Give them a pair of gloves and



they can keep tree beds clean. They can water newly planted trees during the summer. Children can plant bulbs in tree pits. If children need help, adults can dig the holes and children can put the bulbs in and cover them with dirt. Older children can loosen the compacted soil of trees without tree guards so that more water and oxygen can be absorbed by the roots. Drought-tolerant flowers can be planted around the base of the tree. And mulch can be spread around the tree bed, taking care to keep it away from the trunk of the tree.

Several recent tree-care initiatives near schools in our neighborhood are encouraging. The program **Tree Care, Full Block Square**, developed by CHN and board member Ginger Pitman, has expanded all of the tree beds in the full square block around the Hunter Campus Schools and provided new tree guards. Now this program is in the process of being brought to the full square blocks that encompass the Samuel Seabury Playground, PS 198, and PS 77.

Parents at a local preschool, St. Thomas More Play Group, have joined forces to plant new trees and provide effective tree guards. There are discussions about how independent schools with satellite facilities can enhance their blocks by planting trees. And there are opportunities for high-school environmental clubs to organize a work day to spread mulch on their schools’ tree beds to keep the soil from drying out quickly in the summer and provide year-round protection.

We need to provide our children with concrete opportunities to enhance the environment so that 20 or 30 years from now they can point to a tree that they helped care for and say, “That tree is helping in the fight for a more positive future.”

*The City Tree* is available at The Corner Bookstore.

t

**We are happy to support Carnegie Hill Neighbors  
in celebration of all it does for our community.**

The work you do has helped create a beautiful location for work and home, and a quality of life that is exceptional!



**Dr. Robert and Lisa Guida  
New York Facial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery  
1175 Park Avenue, #1-B  
New York, NY 10128**

**[www.drguida.com](http://www.drguida.com)**

**212-871-0900**



**CARNEGIE HILL**  
*neighbors*

1326 Madison Avenue  
Garden Level  
New York, NY 10128

PRESORT STD  
U.S. Postage  
PAID  
New York, NY.  
Permit No. 2154

212-996-5520 • info@chneighbors.org • chneighbors.org

## YOUR CHN MEMBERSHIP SUPPORTS:

**PRESERVATION**



**SAFETY**



**QUALITY OF LIFE/  
GRAFFITI REMOVAL**



**FULFILLING OUR THREE MISSIONS FOR 54 YEARS**

Become a CHN member and ensure that our efforts continue. Join at the basic level and receive a *Carnegie Hill Architectural Guide* as our gift. Become a supporter at higher levels and receive an additional gift.

## BECOME A MEMBER NOW

Scan the QR code or go to our website: [chneighbors.org/membership](http://chneighbors.org/membership)

