

STREET FAIR 2014 ANOTHER BIG SUCCESS!

By Tom Horan, Vice President, MHNA, and Street Fair Chair

Just the right combination of moderate temperature, low humidity, and abundant sunshine provided wonderful weather for the Murray Hill Street Fair on June 7th. It was a really spectacular day and the Fair was a great success.



The retail attendees this year included a large number of arts and crafts vendors offering unique and beautiful handcrafted items. We hope to increase the presence of this type of vendor in future events, so watch for announcements and information on joining us at the Fair if you would like to participate or know someone who might be interested. We

would love to have more Murray Hill artisans at the Fair.

Our musical entertainment was really top-notch this year. Performers entertained us with everything from Blues to Jazz to Rock to solo vocals and even some Big Band selections. Many attendees grabbed a snack and pulled up a chair to sit and enjoy the music for a while before moving on to peruse the various merchant offerings.



As is always the case, there were dozens of food vendors to select from. This year's favorites seemed to be the German bratwurst and The Pickle Man. Delicious!

Our thanks to

everyone who helped make this event such a resounding success - especially the volunteers who came early and stayed late.

We will begin to plan next year's Fair soon, so make your plans now to join us next Spring on Park Avenue!



Photos courtesy: Nancy Sheran

MURRAY HILL PARTICIPATES IN JANE'S WALK WEEKEND

By Barbara Sagan and Paula Thomson

The fourth Annual Jane's Walk Weekend sponsored by the Municipal Art Society was held the weekend of May

3-4th. To honor the life and legacy of visionary urban activist Jane Jacobs, author of *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, thousands of New Yorkers took to the streets for this annual celebration featuring more than 100 free guided walks throughout New York's five boroughs. The walks were organized and led by enthusiastic New Yorkers on topics and neighborhoods that most interest them. Part of an international movement, Jane's Walk NYC facilitates thousands



of "walking conversations" that get New Yorkers out to explore our city and engage with our streets, public spaces and each other.

The Preservation and Design Committee ("P&D") of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association sponsored two walking tours of our historic neighborhood as part of the Jane's Walk weekend. Paula Thomson and Barbara Sagan, both members of P&D, led the tours on Saturday, May 3rd, one at 9 AM and one at noon. Titled "Murray Hill: At the Foot of Grand Central Ter-

Continued on page 15

Murray Hill Life

A PUBLICATION OF THE
MURRAY HILL NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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Online Edition: Ashley Petrylak & Jon Gilbert

Design & Production: Hilary Black

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Murray Hill Neighborhood Association
Post Office Box 1897
New York, NY 10156-1897
212-886-5867

Send letters to the editor or story ideas to
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and please use the subject line
"Murray Hill Life".



From the President's Desk

Diane Bartow

I sincerely hope everyone had a wonderful summer. Now, we begin a new year of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association, our 54th!

We recently discovered an article about the original Murray Hill Association formed in 1914. I find it very interesting that the chief objectives of the association in 1914 are so similar to the mission of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association today, 100 years later. It states, in part, to secure the cooperation, association and concerted action of all persons interested in the welfare of the Murray Hill neighborhood for the purpose of preserving and promoting the residential character of said neighborhood. Indeed, the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association's mission is to continue to make Murray Hill a highly desirable place to live, work and visit. The Preservation & Design Committee is working hard to secure additional buildings in the historic district to protect the incredible history of this neighborhood. We continue the tradition of preserving and improving our wonderful Murray Hill. The 1914 article is available in the newsletter's online edition.

I hope you will all join us on September 18, 2014 for the Murray Hill Quality of Life Town Forum that we will be conducting with Community Board 6 and our City Council Members and Borough President. This will be your opportunity to find out what is going on in the neighborhood, the critical issues we face and how we hope to resolve them. After the meeting you will have the opportunity to discuss the issues with the chair and co-chairs of the various committees of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association.

The Board of Trustees is hard at work on the issues we are confronted with. The neighborhood is a major construction area with developments on 34th Street, 3rd Avenue and the continued construction of the MTA project on 37th Street and Park Avenue. We, along with Community Boards 5 and 6, continue to monitor these activities.

Fall is in the air and the greening of Murray Hill will continue. We had a very harsh winter, so we are still working on replacement of certain trees and other damage that was caused by the weather.

We continue to focus on some major issues, such as the rezoning of midtown, traffic and transportation concerns, problems along 3rd Avenue, buildings for sale that could contribute to overgrowth in the Murray Hill area, preserving our historic district and increasing the Association's membership.

The Association also plans events that we believe you will be interested in and enjoy.

I hope if you have the time, you will become a volunteer on one of our committees as we need your help! We are still a fully volunteer organization and must rely on neighbors to get the job done.

We receive many telephone and email inquiries about problems in and around the neighborhood and our members receive priority attention to their concerns. Your membership is extremely important, so make sure you renew.

Hope to see you all on September 18 and at the various events in the new season.

Thank you to all our loyal members for your membership. Because of you and our dedicated and hard-working Trustees, our neighborhood is truly a special place to live.

News from MECA

Manhattan East Community Association

Fred Arcaro, President

Construction is progressing at JDS's two-building project located at 625 First Avenue, where excavation is currently being performed to accommodate garage space. A Community Board 6 construction task force has been formed to address any community concerns arising from the construction project. The task force received some complaints that JDS's project was working after normal construction hours. While JDS did get proper Department of Buildings' permits to work during non-normal working hours, there is a bill (Intro. 1183) in the City Council sponsored by Council Members Rosie Mendez and Dan Garodnick that would make it more difficult for contractors to obtain after hours construction work permits. Community Board 6 has approved a resolution in support of this bill.

The new expanded NYU Langone Medical Center emergency department is now operational.

In an effort to cut travel time for emergency vehicles to reach the NYU emergency department, Community Board 6 has approved a resolution in support of a Department of Transportation proposal to make 33rd Street between Second and First Avenues a two-way street.

The City has determined that the Waterside Pier (formerly known as Con Edison Pier 38th-41st Streets) will have to undergo a complete structural renovation with new supports that will accommodate a newly constructed pier with new waterfront amenities. The new pier will also have a bike path that will connect the future north and south bike paths. In order for bikers to connect to the waterfront bike path, DOT has proposed the following:

- A two-way bike lane on 37th Street between First Avenue and the FDR service road.
- A two-way bike lane from a single lane on the west side of First Avenue between 37th and 38th Street.
- A one-way east-bound bike lane on 38th Street between First and Second Avenues.
- A one-way west-bound bike lane on 35th Street between the FDR service road and Second Avenue.

At Community Board 6's June board meeting, local residents expressed serious safety concerns about having a two-way bike lane on the north side of 37th Street. After much debate, the Board passed a resolution opposing the bike lane on the south side of 37th Street. As of this writing the DOT's traffic division is studying the project.

There is nothing new to report on the proposed 25th Street New York City Sanitation garage project, which continues to engender a great deal of community opposition.

Also, there is no progress on the Solow project located be-

tween 38th and 41st Streets and First Avenue, except that on the west side of 38th Street and First Avenue at 685 First Avenue a parking garage has resumed business.

SL Green submitted a proposal to City Planning for a new 67-story building at 317 Madison Avenue that would take up the whole block between 42nd and 43rd Streets and between Vanderbilt and Madison Avenues. Discussions are underway between the Multi-board Task Force, of which Community Board 6 is a member, City Planning and SL Green, to work out the details of the project. Stay tuned for further developments.

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Autumn season in Murray Hill

We are happy to be a proud member of this wonderful community, and have enjoyed being of service to our new neighbors and their pets. We look forward to meeting more of you and welcome you to stop by to meet us anytime during this special time of year in NYC!

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Members' Corner

New Members

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Sam Kuckley
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Julia Solomon,
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Melissa Given
John Vaccaro
Sudhira Vadlamani
Inger Wedin
C. Joseph Wiseman
Chris Wood

New Business Members

Bagel Boss Murray Hill
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Hill and Bay Restaurant
Kale Health Foods Inc.
Kalvig & Shorter
Veterinary Associates
Villa Berulia Restaurant

as of 7/7/2014



Tell a Friend about the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association

Please enter a new (or renewal) membership at the level I have indicated below: My check is enclosed, payable to
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- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ \$35 Individual | ☐ \$50 Couple |
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| ☐ \$100 Patron | ☐ \$250 Guardian |
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Additional contributions will be acknowledged in our Newsletter.

If you prefer not to be acknowledged, please check here ☐

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Mail to: Murray Hill Neighborhood Association
Membership Coordinator
PO Box 1897, New York, NY 10156-1897

MHNA Remembers Helen Weber

Helen Weber, a grand dame of Murray Hill, passed away late last year at the age of 93, although to those of us who admired her, she seemed so much younger. An eager participant in everything Murray Hill, and an effective champion of our neighborhood, she was proud of her success in boosting the image of Murray Hill through her work as advertising manager of the MHNA Newsletter, and on every other committee that needed a vital, intelligent and active presence.



Unmarried and without children, Helen moved to Albuquerque a few years ago to be near her nephew and nieces. She always missed us and her special MHNA. In turn, we will miss her.

Join or Renew online!

Visit www.murrayhillnyc.org, to join or renew your membership online. There, you can also keep up to date on events and other newsworthy items.

Correction

The article entitled "Murray Hill Author Shines Light on Visually-Impaired Artists" in the Spring Newsletter was written by Busser Howell.

INTERIORS



by John Chadwick

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MHNA Thanks Street Fair Donors and Volunteers!

The 2014 Silent Auction was a highlight of last spring's Street Fair and a most successful part of the day's fundraising activities. We thank our donors for your continued generosity and support. The Silent Auction would not have been possible this year without the hard work of Tom Horan, Marisa Bulzone and Marion Weingarten, with special thanks to Barbara Green, Ann Usher, Paula Gilliam, Enid Klass, Marilyn Ringel, Robert Cohen, Alice Timothy, Ashley Petrylak, Anoop Punjabi, Linda Froccaro, Estelle Meister and Irene Lee.

Following is a list of the donors:

New York Mets Organization (Courtesy of David Newman)

The Kitano Hotel

70 Park Avenue Hotel

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Kidding Around

Oasis Day Spa

Déjà Vu Hair Styling

Denise Mange Dog Training

Kalvig & Shorter, Veterinary Associates

Special thanks must also go to the volunteers who tirelessly contributed their time to the Festival. They are as follows:

Gail Lott, Robin Fifield, Matt McKeon, Ron Berthel, Cathy Spengel, Ray Gentile, Sami Steigmann, Virginia Parkhouse, Sandy Driesen, Paula Thompson, Pauline Brooks, Rena Golub, Judy Hill and Ellen Berliner.

Two High-Rise Residential Buildings Nearing Completion

By Nancy Idaka Sheran

Scaffolding is down at 325 Lexington Avenue, where a new residential building is nearing completion. This 31-story building has a retail/restaurant space at the street level. This building is between 38th and 39th Streets, next to the Cuban Mission.



325 Lexington Avenue

At 593 Third Avenue, on the corner of 39th Street, a 19-story residential building is in progress. The plans call for retail space at street level. This site is where the Frontier Diner and Byblos used to be, before they were destroyed by a fire in 2010. Completion is planned by April 2015, but it looks like it might be sooner.



593 Third Avenue

Thank You to MHNA

We received a postcard from long-time Murray Hill resident Dorothy Lange stating the following:

It is with much regret that I have to notify you that I have moved from 201 East 35th Street to Fort Lauderdale, Florida after 52 years in a neighborhood you made beautiful and safe.

I want to thank all who donate time and energy to MHNA and its goals. You have given New York City a unique area to be proud of.

God bless you all in your continued work.

*In sincere gratitude,
Dorothy Lange*

The Morgan Library and Museum

Madison Avenue between 36th and 37th Streets

Miracles in Miniature: The Art of The Master of Claude de France, through Sept. 14, 2014. The Master of Claude de France was one of the last great French illuminators, working in Tours from ca. 1508-20. The Morgan recently acquired much of Claude's work, of which two dozen items are shown, with 12 newly discovered calendar miniatures and works from loans and private collections. The centerpiece is the Prayer Book of Claude de France, one of two tiny jewel-like manuscripts the Queen of France commissioned at the time of her coronation in 1517. It measures 2 ¾ x 2 inches and includes 132 miniatures.

Marks of Genius: Treasures from the Bodleian Library, through Sept. 14, 2014. This exhibit presents great achievements of human creativity from diverse disciplines throughout history from Oxford University's Bodleian Library. Included are the oldest book written in English, papyri of Sappho's poems, a 13th century manuscript of the Magna Carta and Mary Shelley's draft of "Frankenstein."

Richard McGuire: HERE, Sept. 25-Nov. 9, 2014. This exhibit celebrates the publication of a new full-color graphic novel and e-book based on McGuire's 1990 Raw Magazine's black and white comic.

A Certain Slant of Light: Spencer Finch at the Morgan, through Jan. 11, 2015. A large scale installation of colored films and glass panels in the large Gilbert Court, inspired by medieval books of hours.

The Untamed Landscape: Théodore and the Path to the Barbizon, Sept. 26, 2014-Jan. 18, 2015. Seventy works from the Morgan and public and private collections illustrate the artist's achievements as a draftsman and his particular approach to open-air oil sketches.

Cy Twombly: Treatise on the Veil, Sept. 26, 2014-Jan. 25, 2015. This exhibit showcases Twombly's monumental painting, "Treatise on the Veil," executed in Rome in 1970, with related drawings.

The Crusader Bible: A Gothic Masterpiece, Oct. 3, 2014-Jan. 5, 2015. This is one of the greatest illuminated manuscripts in the world, with its boldly colored illustrations and fascinating history.

Sky Studies: Oil Sketches from the Thaw Collection, through Dec. 28, 2014. During the second half of the 18th century it was popular among landscape artists to use oil paint on paper working outdoors to capture the changing effects of light and atmosphere. Various artists are represented in this exhibit.

Enjoy lunch or a light snack at the Morgan Café with or without tickets. For information about public programs – lectures, concerts, gallery talks, films, family and special events – call 212-685-0008 or visit the Morgan's website at www.themorgan.org. Enjoy Friday evenings until 9 PM; 7-9 PM FREE ADMISSION.

The New York Public Library

42nd Street and Fifth Avenue

The Stephen A. Schwarzman Building

Over Here: WWI and the Fight for the American Mind, July 28, 2014-Feb. 15, 2015, Wachenheim III Gallery, Main Floor. This exhibit marks the 100th anniversary of the outbreak of WWI. It focuses on the war on the American home front, showing how public relations, propaganda and mass media were used to shape and control public opinion. Items come from New York Public Library collections.

Turner and Moran Prints, Oct. 17, 2014-Feb. 15, 2015, Print & Stokes Galleries, 3rd Fl. English Romantic painter, Joseph William Mallord Turner, was known for his innovative treatment of landscapes. American artist, Thomas Moran, admired and studied Turner's works. Moran's noteworthy prints are of Niagara Falls, the Hudson River Valley and the American West.

Note FREE special events. Check details at <http://www.nypl.org/events/programs>. Schwarzman Building, 42nd St: Diverse lecture topics this fall include: Building a Virtual Atlas of NY; Old Books, Rare Books: Learning the Value of Your Books; Discuss Great Books in a Great Space; Uncovering Your Family History: Researching Vital Records & The Census; The Chef Says: Art and Food Series Event.

Mid-Manhattan Library, 40th St. & 5th Ave.: Talks by authors, films, What Inspires Artists and many more.

If you haven't taken the free tour of the library's history and architecture, it's time to do so! For info on exhibits, lectures, and tours contact: www.nypl.org/schwarzman; 917-275-6975. Also check SIBL (5th Ave. & 34th St.) and Mid-Manhattan (5th Ave. & 40th St.) for schedules of free lectures and computer classes.

CUNY Graduate Center

Fifth Avenue between 34th and 35th Streets

During the summer, activities take a vacation, but here are a few events:

Music in Midtown

FREE concerts through Dec. 2014. Thursdays 1:00 PM by doctorate level participants, renowned faculty and guest artists. No tickets or reservations required. Elebash Recital Hall, Main Floor.

Sept. 18: Chamber music with Ani Kafavian, Tim Eddy, Soyeon Kate Lee.

Oct. 2: Robert White, tenor.

Oct. 16: Chamber Music on Fifth I.

Oct. 30: Paula Robison, flute, and Paavali Jumppanen, piano.

Nov. 13: Chamber Music on Fifth II.

Dec. 4: Jane Marsh, soprano. Watch for 2015 schedule.

Center For Jewish Studies

FREE, Segal Theatre, Main Floor: Wed.'s, 6:15-8:15 PM:

Sept. 17: Deportation & Murder of "alien" Jews in Bulgaria and Hungary.

Oct. 29: Jacob Poznanski's Diary and the Litzmannstadt Ghetto, with Prof. Robert M. Shapiro, Brooklyn College.

Dec. 10: The Holocaust in the Court Room: Famous, Infamous and Unknown Trials, with Prof. Mary Maudsley, Richard Stockton College, N.J.

Martin E. Segal Theatre Center

Innovative International Theatre Presentations. FREE.

Wed.-Fri. Oct. 8-10: PRELUDE 2014: Features various artists working in theatrical and other performance venues present a survey of in-process presentations, open rehearsals and discussions.

For more information: www.gc.cuny.edu/events. 212-817-8215. Become a member (\$40) for ticket discounts and special events with receptions: www.gc.cuny.edu/membership.htm; 212-817-7130.

Arts, Culture & Leisure

Scandinavia House

Park Avenue between 37th and 38th Streets

EXHIBITS:

Iceland: Artists Respond to Place, Oct. 11, 2014-Jan. 10, 2015

The focus of this exhibit is the rich and complex relationship of contemporary artists to the unique geography of their country. Featured are 12 leading contemporary Icelandic artists, with a wide range of approaches and media, including painting, photography, sculpture, wall drawings and video.

WATCH FOR EVENTS, TBA AS OF PUBLICATION TIME: *Film Series:* Films from all Scandinavian countries. *Concerts:* Diversified programs. *Family & Kids Programs:* Story telling, music, crafts and more.

For details contact www.scandinaviahouse.org or 212-779-3587. To receive on-going info, leave your email address on right: "Join the Scandinavia House e-list..." Visit Facebook page, stop by in person and become a member. Contact: www.amscan.org/membership or above phone no., ext. 715. Check out the fabulous gift shop and Smörgås Restaurant, open for brunch, lunch, dinner, snacks, coffee/tea and combination deals with certain films, concerts and other events (212-847-9745).

Bryant Park

The Big Winter Event is The Pond, our local free ice skating rink, Nov. - Feb. Also the park's Christmas tree and holiday gift shops. Check out events all year: brochures, 212-768-4242, www.bryant-park.org, Bryant Park's Facebook, Twitter, blog, weekly newsletter, eblasts.

17th Precinct Salutes Murray Hill Neighborhood Association

By Marion Weingarten

On Friday evening, June 13, 2014, at Saint Vartan Armenian Cathedral, the 17th Precinct Community Council honored members of the New York City Police Department for meritorious and excellent police duty at its annual Community/Police Appreciation Awards Ceremony and Reception. In addition, neighborhood associations within the 17th Precinct were singled

out for their special and outstanding service to the community. The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association was

recognized once again, with Diane Bartow, its president, accepting the honor.

Photo courtesy: Marion Weingarten



Irene Grafman, D.D.S.

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More Rave Reviews for Murray Hill Author's Book on Visually-Impaired Artists

By Susan Demmet

In the time since our article on Busser Howell's book, *20/20 Blindsight*, appeared in the Spring Newsletter, the book has continued to garner a consistent string of rave reviews.

"I highly recommend experiencing *Blindsight*. Not only could it change your perspective if you are fully sighted, but perhaps offer inspiration on a number of levels. How Busser and these other artists create such beauty, I do not know, but if one wants to push beyond the bounds of everyday life, it is tucked away in the pages of *Blindsight*," says Philippe, reviewing the book on Amazon.

Another reader was equally as impressed, adding, "Busser Howell's book *20/20 Blindsight* is an amazingly written and easy to read exploration of legally blind and totally blind artists. The reader can read only the interviews or the narrative and learn so much about blind artists. The stories are interesting and are at the cornerstone of art and the human mind."

"The book remains a remarkable and shockingly honest resource, not only for readers interested in these misrepresented members of the artistic community, but for anyone



looking for an intimate examination of an artist's creative process. Brings much-needed focus and unprecedented access to an oft-ignored community." - Kirkus Review

The book is available at: <http://www.amazon.com/20-Blindsight-Busser-Howell/dp/0615709052> and is available as Kindle download.

Neighborhood Profile: The Spiral Theatre Studio

An innovative off-Broadway company devoted to the concept of growing older with grace and grit.

Paula J. Riley is a Murray Hill Neighborhood Association member who, at the ripe



Paula J. Riley

young age of seventy, opened her dream theater. Now she is offering her fellow members discounts to all productions at The Spiral. Group sales are also available. Please contact her at: 212-689-4362 or email her at: spiraltheatrestudio@gmail.com. For further information, check out their schedule of shows at: www.thespiraltheatrestudio.com.



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Patrons of Park Avenue Thank You!

By John Chadwick

The Park Avenue Malls have never been more beautiful than they are this year! Mother Nature and our consultants have been working overtime in that regard.

Our tulips were beautiful and now the Angel-wing Begonias are resplendent. We lost one of our beloved Japanese Kwan-zan Cherry trees this year after several years of treating it for a disease. We knew the end was coming but were dedicated to prolonging its life as long as possible.

We are now taking bids for the painting and repair of the iron fencing on our beloved malls.

All of the good things you see happening on Park Avenue stem from the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association and the Patrons of Park Avenue. We ask each building that lines Park Avenue to contribute \$2000.00 per year toward the maintenance of our malls. We are indeed gratified that almost all of the buildings that line Park Avenue gladly agreed to pay their fair share of the annual maintenance. POPA is in the midst of its Annual Fundraising Campaign now. If you don't see your building's name among our BENEFAC-TOR List, please urge your Board of Directors to join us in this vital endeavor

BENEFAC-TOR (\$2000/year or more)

2 Park Avenue	20 Park Avenue	70 Park Avenue
7 Park Avenue	23 Park Avenue	90 Park Avenue
10 Park Avenue	40 Park Avenue	99 Park Avenue
15-17 Park Avenue	41 Park Avenue	

PATRON (\$1000- \$1999/year)

16 Park Avenue	48 Park Avenue	80 Park Avenue
36 Park Avenue	67 Park Avenue	

For the second year in a row, we are offering a group of individuals and businesses the opportunity to underwrite the cost of weekly cleanings so that our Malls will remain clean as well as green. The cost of that underwriting is \$500.00 per month. If you are interested in becoming a GARDENER, please contact us. We have three months still available!!!

GARDENERS

June	Interiors By John Chadwick, Fine Interior Design Since 1976
July	Tom Horan
August	Philip & Cheryl Greenberg, in honor of their birth-days
September	Federal Home Loan Bank of New York
October	Sanford Hall, Murray Hill's Flooring Store
November	Scandinavian House
December	Church of the Incarnation, Murray Hill's Landmark Church
January	Metropolitan Bank
February	Bartow Insurance for All of Your Insurance Needs
March	AVAILABLE
April	AVAILABLE
May	AVAILABLE

VOLUNTEERS

Although we valiantly fight the weeds and pests on the Malls with professional help, we are unable to keep ahead of that without our wonderful volunteers. We are so grateful to have two new volunteers to help weed and clean our malls. They are Albertina Ferreira and Judith Hill. If you are interested in working on "Clean Up" detail on the Malls, please let us know.

Best Wishes for a wonderful season!

Irma Worrell Fisher, Founding Chairperson

John Chadwick, 2014 Chairman

Jchadwick@rcn.com, 212.685.8900

Age-Friendly Resources

Did you know that senior citizens in NYC can audit CUNY classes for free? For more information about Age-Friendly NYC programs, see their website: www.nyam.org/agefriendlynyc.

Below are a few quick links to resources for senior citizens, compiled by Age-Friendly NYC:

Parks Department:	www.nycgovparks.org/seniors
Cultural Guide:	www.nyc-arts.org
College Link:	www.agefriendlycollege.org

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Recently at Scotty's, Murray Hill's 24-hour diner on 39th Street and Lexington Avenue, a neighborhood presence for 25 years, I met with Jeff, the Murray Hill neighbor I have known since I moved here in 1966.

How Old Were You When We First Met?

Jeff: "My dad had a TV and air conditioner repair shop on Lex between 38th and 39th for 53 years and I drove around with him from the time I was 7 years old. I also used to help my dad, and carry ACs and TVs but it was hard work and working with dad was not always easy."

Tell Me about How You Got Started in the Locksmith Business.

"I hated school and had to go to summer school every year just to finish high school. But I had 'golden hands' and attended TV repair school and key-cutting school. After high school, I started working for Abby Locksmith, lived at home and saved money for 2 years. Then I bought a big white truck – a mobile van with a window and started a 'key-cutting shop on wheels' at flea markets and then on 34th and 42nd Streets. My dad urged me to have an address – a base – so I set-up a booth in his shop cutting keys and from there the business started taking off. That was in the late eighties. I moved to the shop on 39th Street and called my company 'monKEYS' and that's how it is spelled."

Why Did You Call Your Store 'monKEYS'?

"Yes, people laughed in the beginning at that name. They would say 'What kind of a name is that? It's a crazy name.' As a kid I had lots of monkey stuffed animals and my mom loved monkeys too. Monkey was my nickname when I was younger. I was always climbing trees so they used to call me 'monkey.'"

What About Doing Business in our Murray Hill Neighborhood?

"When I moved to the 39th Street store, my dad retired, he needed something to do so he became my assistant and my mom kept my books. At one time I had 9 vans and 21 employees – now I run my own shop and I have 2 vans and 6 employees."

"I Have Built Something Really Nice Here."

Jeff's wife is a Superintendent with the Department of Education; they have one son who works with him, and three grandchildren. "I am blessed," Jeff told me. "I feel it's incredible that I own and run my own store – some people call me 'The Mayor of Murray Hill.' I walk down the street and every doorman, super, old neighbor says 'hi.' I wish Murray Hill could reverse the cycle and return to the less commercial, more friendly neighborhood where everyone knew each other, when there were more Mom & Pop stores" which



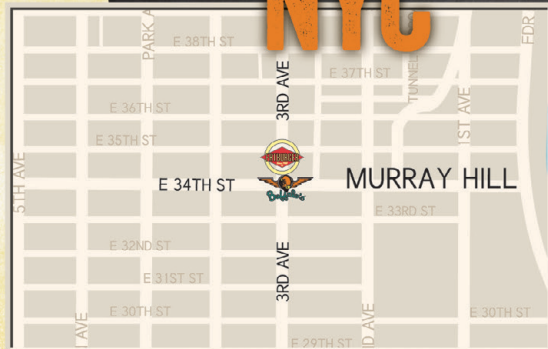
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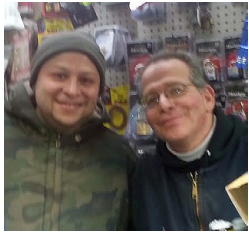




he worries are mostly gone or fast going. "I don't see people trusting each other anymore just because of the money."

The Mayor of Murray Hill – Witness To Change.

As we left Scotty's and walked along the street, I asked Jeff to talk about the changes he has seen in many of the businesses and buildings he services today.



Jeff (right) and son, Irving.

"Southwest corner of 39th Street next to my dad's shop on Lexington was Wilner's Drug Store that had a counter where I had ice cream sodas. Next to my dad's shop was a jewelry store and next to that was Joe's Tailor, then Angelo's Florist, who always gave his neighbors a single red rose. Across

the street were Plymouth Dry Cleaning and Peter Cooper Bar and Restaurant, part of the hotel. Sam's on 39th Street was originally a Pizza shop. Next to Wilner's on 39th Street there were two hotels. One was The Court Hotel. The former manager still lives in Murray Hill, and mid-block was and still is The Tuscany."

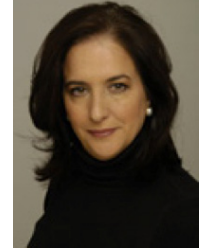
"Across the street, the old Japanese Restaurant was a barbershop with the candy cane sign in front of the building. The barber lived upstairs." Up the street Jeff pointed out the building with the gallery. "This one of the few remaining single-family-owned buildings. A world-renown sculpture art restorer who died two years ago owned and lived in this building – his son still lives here. Scotty's was a Mom and Pop diner. Next to Scotty's was a small florist shop and a shoe repair shop was on the corner."

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The Unforgettables — An Alzheimer's/Dementia Choral Group that Keeps the Beat

By Suzie Engel, Member of the Unforgettables

The Unforgettables was founded in June 2011 as a project by the NYU Langone Center on Brain Aging to examine the effect of music on people with dementia and their caregivers. The group's members came up with our name.

The Unforgettables, led by conductors Dale Lamb and Tania Papayannopoulou unites people with dementia and their caregivers who meet as a team for weekly two hour rehearsals that after thirteen weeks results in a concert. On July 10, 2014, we performed our 12th concert at St. Peter's Church.

Within three years of singing with the group there is evidence of improved communication, increased functional ability and less depression among our members. This is achieved through the sharing of familiar music as well as socializing during our break time, exercise and feeling the link with others in the group - a group whose members feel like family and friends.

All this is the result of our two wonderful, most appreciated conductors, Dale and Tania, who have been conducting The Unforgettables since we began in June 2011. Dale is a music/voice educator, pianist, singer and choral conductor who has taught K-8 general music and has been music director of Church of Our Lady of Peace for 25 years. Tania is a music educator, singer, pianist, conductor and musical therapist. She

has performed with several New York choirs as well as at the Greek Orthodox Cathedral of the Holy Trinity in New York.

Both Tania and Dale are caring, supportive, energetic, involved individuals whose skills and feelings toward the group result in the group's involvement and optimism. Often, as members sing, they say they feel like smiling and that they are "coming alive." That is often reinforced by songs selected such as "Smile, Put on a Happy Face," and "Accentuate the Positive."

Through the efforts of Dale, Tania and The Unforgettables, we feel that at whatever level of dementia/caregiving were are that life is worthwhile and how important it is to be in the moment and to value the now. My mom, Norma, and I were at the group's first meeting. When asked what her favorite song was she said "Ben Mir Bis Da Shein" a Yiddish song. She couldn't remember the words; however, at our concert, when she sang the whole song as a solo, she felt pride and joy, realizing the enduring importance and beauty of music.

She died two years ago and we also lost several other members whom we dearly miss, but in recent months we have been fortunate to be joined by new members. Together, with Dale and Tania we hope to continue meeting weekly, singing, clapping, tapping, swaying, socializing, and con-



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necting with each other.

Our next concert is Saturday, December 6, 2014 at St. Peter's Church. Please come hear us sing.

Library Way's 10th Anniversary Celebration

By Elaine Silber

Ever wonder about the history behind all those literary plaques on the sidewalk leading up to the main library along both sides of 41st Street from Park Avenue to Fifth Avenue? This area, known as Library Way, literally stops people in their tracks. Come join your neighbors and other community members on Wednesday, September 17th from 12:00-2:00 PM to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the installation of these plaques containing quotes from some of the best-known authors and literary works of our time. Samuel Beckett, Emily Dickenson, Langston Hughes and William Styron are several of the writers whose quotations are embedded in these famous bronze plaques. Commissioned by the New York Public Library and the Grand Central Partnership in the 1990's, each of the 48 plaques (duplicated on both sides of the street, for a total of 96) also contains an image inspired by the text.

Sponsored by the Grand Central Partnership, the New York Public Library and the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association,

this event kicks off the library's free weekly Books At Noon series, which takes place on Wednesdays in Astor Hall in the Stephen A. Schwarzman library building on Fifth Avenue and 42nd Street. This celebratory event will be held on the library's Fifth Avenue steps and plaza area and is also free to the public.

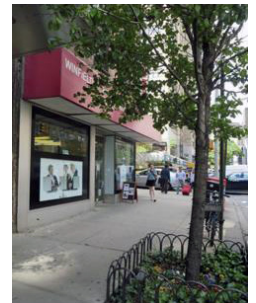
Hear an acclaimed author (still to be chosen as of this writing) along with key members of the Library and the Grand Central Partnership. Meet the sculptor of the plaques, Gregg LeFevre and his partner Jennifer Andrews of the Andrews/LeFevre Studios. Join Gregg on a tour of the plaques or follow along with a visual representation of the plaques from a "self-guided" brochure. Either way, don't forget to look down and choose which inscription is your favorite!

MHNA Focus on Local Businesses

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association has established a new Business Relationship Committee to foster partnerships with our local businesses by encouraging them to become Business Members of the MHNA, which would offer businesses new channels for reaching Murray Hill's engaged residents and ways to enhance their streetscape/sidewalk frontage.

Our New Annual Business Member Benefits include:

- Complimentary business listing on the MHNA website, murrayhillnyc.org
- Complimentary post on the MHNA Facebook page
- Complimentary e-blast to MHNA members (with special offer for MHNA members)
- Complimentary annual subscription to Murray Hill Life newsletter (print and online)
- 10% discount on your advertising in the newsletter
- Complimentary upgrade on your first ad in Murray Hill Life
- Advance notice about MHNA events
- E-mail notices of MHNA and community events, forums and business activity
- Discounts at many local businesses



It is easy to become a member online: Visit www.murrayhillnyc.org, then click on "Membership."

We need your help in finding interested business owners who would like to take advantage of becoming a member. Please contact us for additional information and if you or someone you know would like to volunteer to help our Committee: info@murrayhillnyc.com or 212-886-5867.



*Photos courtesy: Nancy Sheran
3rd Avenue at 37th Street.*



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Sunday at the Ballet

Members of the MHNA were treated to a spectacular afternoon of George Balanchine's JEWELS on Sunday afternoon May 25, 2014. The afternoon began with a talk by Faye Arthurs, a member of the corps, who enlightened us about the day's performance. Balanchine was inspired to create the plotless ballet which is in three acts after visiting Van Cleef & Arpels in Paris. Each act represents a different precious stone requiring the dancers to convey vastly differing moods through movement. Emeralds, the first, depicted Bal-

by Marion Weingarten

anchine's early years in Paris recalling the 19th century dances of the French Romantics with music by Faure. This was followed by the bold and jazzy Rubies depicting Balanchine's time in New York with music by Stravinsky. The third and last, Diamonds, was regal yet romantic, recalling the grandeur of his early days in imperial Russia with music by Tchaikovsky. All of the jeweled costumes were by Karinska with whom Balanchine had a lifelong association. We were surprised when Jonathan Stafford, a principal dancer in

Emeralds and Diamonds, appeared on stage alone. It was his farewell performance and members of the Company lined up to present Jonathan with bouquets of roses amid confetti and colored streamers. It was quite a sendoff.



(l.-r.), Linda Vitelli, Barbara Sagan, Faye Arthurs (a dancer), Marion Weingarten, a guest, Maureen Edelson and Todd Edelson, at the ballet.

Collectors Club Announces 2014-2015 Youth and Adult Stamp Programs

By Debby Friedman, Program Coordinator

The Collectors Club of New York is pleased to announce the sixth year of its Youth Stamp Club, open to students in Grades 4 and up. Beginners are welcome and the program is free. Meetings are held at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street, from 10-11:30 am, usually on the third Saturday of the month. The dates for the 2014-2015 school year are: September 20, October 25, November 15, December 20, January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18 and May 16. For information or to register, e-mail info@collectorsclub.org

or call 212-683-0559.

In October, The Collectors Club of New York will begin its third year of the program for adults who are interested in stamp collecting. The free program is aimed at those beginning to collect stamps or wanting to resume the hobby, as well as those curious about the attractions of stamp collecting. Information, encouragement and guidance are the goals. All materials will be provided – we won't be selling anything. Stamp collecting can be an

absorbing, challenging and creative hobby, as well as an enjoyable break in a high stress life. There are a myriad of subjects and themes to interest any individual. The first two meetings will be October 25 and December 20 from 1 -2:30 pm at the Collectors Club, 22 East 35th Street. Additional dates to be announced. For information or to register email info@collectorsclub.org or call 212-683-0559.

Space is limited so early registration is advisable for both programs.

Business Owners Should Install Bike Racks

We applaud Jeffrey Tinney, co-owner with Matthew Resnick of the new Juice, located at 156 East 33rd Street, for buying and installing an aesthetically-pleasing bike rack, which he ordered for approximately \$100 from Amazon.com. It would greatly improve the look of our neighborhood if more businesses did the same to eliminate the clutter of bikes stacked against each other, or chained to trees and tree guards.



Community Board 6 advises that the Department of Transportation has recently imposed a fine of \$250.00 for bikes chained to trees, and also asks that bikes not be chained to tree guards, which causes damage, as does people sitting on them, resulting in businesses having to replace them.

The City provides another style of free bike racks that may be ordered by calling 311 or filling

out an application on DOT's website: <http://www.nyc.gov/html/dot/html/bicyclists/cityrack-suggest.shtml>.

It does take time for DOT to process these orders, and CB 6 suggests following up with calls to 311.

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River School Completes First Year

It has been a remarkable inaugural year for The River School - PS 281, serving the neighborhoods of Kips Bay, Murray Hill, and Tudor City. The school's goal was to establish a deep sense of community and collaboration across families, teachers, and students. In the fall, the school will welcome new incoming pre-kindergartners and kindergartners, and it expands to first grade. The River School is growing and will reach full capacity to fifth grade in 2018.

Academically, the school is focused on building high level thinking and literacy skills through a balanced literacy approach and inquiry-based

learning. This past year pre-kindergarten students engaged in interdisciplinary studies centered on topics such as construction, the human body, and the season of spring. The kindergartners learned about the school and all its parts, and then went on to study trees. At The River School, the topic of study is simply a vehicle for thinking, and usually launches with an experience, provides opportunities to ask questions, and ends with a project. For example, the pre-k students visited a neighboring construction site to interview workers, and later attended a tour of River Park Farm to learn about urban agriculture. The kindergarten students interviewed the architects and project manager from the School Construction Authority to understand how their school building was designed, and later made rounds to the local parks to observe trees (specifically St. Vartan Park located just across the street).

The learning approach at the River School is also geared towards building emotional and social intelligence. The youngsters have been introduced to

emotional language (feelings words) and can articulate frustrations and manage social situations with grace. This enables students to navigate conflict, work collaboratively, and to effectively communicate. For these young elementary students, building this particular set of skills enhances their academic learning.

For the upcoming school year, The River School has expanded their enrichment staff to include a music and movement teacher, in addition to their STEAM Lab teacher. The STEAM Lab will continue to tie together several disciplines: Science, Technology, Engineering,

Art and Math. Notably this year, they celebrated students' enrichment learning at their Spring Music & Yoga Performance, Pre-K Zoo Study and Kindergarten STEAM Lab Expo, which celebrated student learning about writer Eric Carle and butterflies.

Family engagement is a key piece to any successful school, and has been a longstanding tradition in Community School District 2. To further enhance parent partnerships, the school will continue to host monthly Family Fridays (where families spend mornings in classrooms with their children participating in a learning activities), PTA-sponsored events (this past year was the well-attended River School PS 281 Spring Benefit), curriculum night, family workshops, and family

conferences.

To learn more about the school's mission, explore their school library, and gather family educational resources, please visit their website: www.ps281.org. They look forward to their second year, which commences on Thursday, September 4, 2014.

Jane's Walk – continued from page 1

minimal & Empire State Building and So Residential!”, the walk attracted more than 25 people from other parts of the City as well as international tourists from Germany and Holland.

Walk leaders Paula and Barbara gave an enthusiastic and lively tour of our neighborhood with stories of some of the famous people who have resided here including Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, JP Morgan, Andy Warhol and of course Mary Murray herself.

Several of these notables from Murray Hill's past made an appearance in the form of stick masks delighting the participants and bringing history alive again. Highlights of the tour included the Union League Club, the DeLamar Mansion (Polish Consulate), the Morgan Library and Annex, the Robb Mansion and Sniffen Court. In addition, our walk leaders emphasized the unique residential quality of Murray Hill and the role preservation has played in protecting the neighborhood from overdevelopment starting with the Murray Hill Restrictive Covenant of 1847 through the establishment and recent expansion of the Murray Hill Historic District.

The weekend culminated on Sunday afternoon with a Jane's Birthday Party celebration at the Hester Street Fair to toast the legacy of Jane Jacobs on what would have been her 98th birthday.

Note: Barbara Sagan and Paula Thompson each recently led a Murray Hill Historic Walking Tour for volunteers of the Morgan Library. Watch our website's events page for future tours: www.murrayhillnyc.org.



MORGAN AND OTHERS FIGHT TO SAVE MURRAY HILL

Residents Form a Corporation to Oppose Encroachment of Commercial Structures on a Section for Years Noted as a Closely Restricted Locality of Fine Homes.

How long can the Murray Hill restriction be preserved? This question has been asked hundreds of times within the last hundred years, and it bobs up with stronger insistence every time that a new commercial building rears its twelve or sixteen story head in the vicinity of those quiet blocks of dignified residences within the area bounded by Thirty-fourth and Thirty-eighth Streets, Madison and Lexington Avenues.

Tenants in some of these huge trade buildings now look down upon the artistic library and pleasant gardens in the J. Pierpont Morgan home plot. A few years ago the very suggestion that commercial outsiders could invade with impunity the time-honored privacy of this select home region would have been regarded as sacrilege. Today the question is not how can the neighboring encroachments be prevented, but how can the invasion be kept from overleaping the boundaries of the restricted zone.

It is fortunate for the residents that sixty-seven years ago the owners of the tract were far-sighted enough to place a strong restrictive clause upon their land, by which every owner covenanted to build nothing but private houses, excepting churches, and stables if connected with residences.

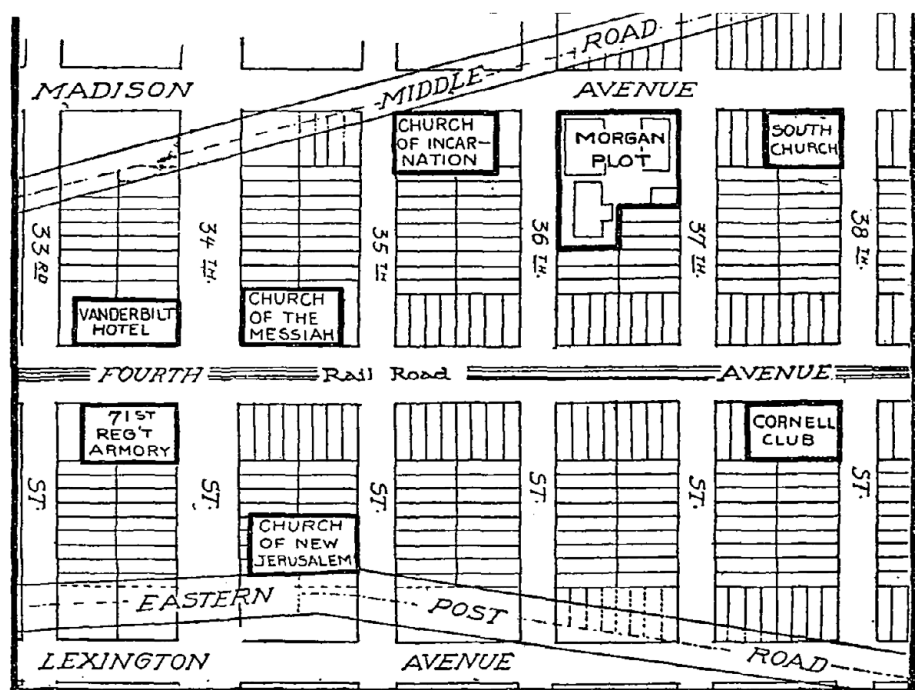
To strengthen this restriction by a firmer co-operation of the residents, the Murray Hill Association has just formed and incorporated at Albany. Its Directors indicate that the organization means to fight for its homes, if need be, even more strenuously than has been necessary in the past. They are seven in number—J. P. Morgan, William Church Osborn, Herbert Parsons, Warren Delano, George R. Sheldon, William D. Guthrie, and Temple Bowdoin. Edmund L. Baylies is counsel to the association.

The chief objects of the association are thus set forth in the certificate of incorporation:

To secure the co-operation, association,

and concerted action of all persons interested in the welfare of the Murray Hill neighborhood in the Borough of Manhattan, City of New York, for the purpose of preserving and promoting the residential character of said neighborhood for the purpose of enforcing the Murray Hill restrictive agreement, and for the purpose of pro-

ough canvass has shown that very few are vacant. This number may be increased to about 400 houses, taking in those just outside the restricted area and which depend to a large extent for their surroundings upon the charac-



The Murray Hill Restricted Zone ~ ~

tecting and preserving said neighborhood from and against any proposals, plans, or schemes of any person or persons, corporation or corporations, whether public or private, designed or intended to promote in any manner any interest or purpose inimical to the interests of said neighborhood, or threatening or menacing in any degree its residential character.

In addition, the association proposes to see that the streets and walks are kept clean and in good condition; to improve, when necessary, traffic conditions; to obtain proper policing, and to work for any other improvements which may benefit the neighborhood.

"There are in the immediate Murray Hill restricted zone," said Mr. Baylies, "about 250 private houses and a thor-

ter of the Murray Hill zone. We hope to arouse so much esprit de corps in the neighborhood that every tenant will feel a personal interest in the matter, regarding himself as a member of a small residential community working for the best interests of all. From our preliminary work we firmly believe that such a community of interest will result.

They Show Much Loyalty.

"The residents of this old Murray Hill region are very loyal to their home centre. Property seldom changes hands, and many of the residents have lived there so many years that they would not feel at home anywhere else.

Despite the encroachments of business, there are few removals to the newer residential zones uptown. Unlike many other sections of New York, there is among the Murray Hill dwellers a genuine sentimental feeling for the old place, and this has been a powerful force in the past toward repelling threatened trade invasions.

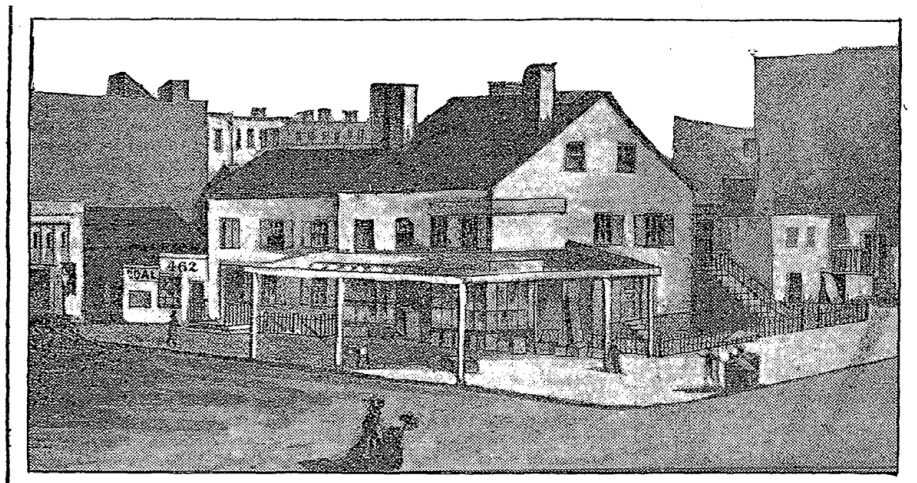
"The association, I am free to admit, is ready to go into the courts, if necessary, to maintain its rights. Indeed, a case is already pending before the Appellate Division. The association, in other words, will act as a wall to stop the advancing tide of commercialism before it swamps us."

From New York's early days Murray Hill has had an aristocratic flavor. Perhaps it is due to the fact that Robert Murray, an eminent Quaker of pre-Revolutionary days and one of the town's wealthiest shipping merchants, had his great country estate on Murray Hill. The British soldiers are said to have marched through his cornfield, now the site of the Grand Central Station. Or perhaps it may be due to the first noteworthy party recorded in history as having been held on Murray Hill. That was when, on Sept. 15, 1776, Mrs. Mary Lindley Murray, wife of Robert Murray, entertained the British officers after they landed at Kip's Bay, near the foot of Thirty-fourth Street, from the Long Island shore, supplying such an abundance of good wine and lively conversation that they tarried long enough to give the retreating American forces time to escape from the lower part of the city to the Harlem Heights.

Thatcher, in his Revolutionary Journal, one of the authorities of the time, says that "it has since become almost a common saying among our officers that Mrs. Murray saved this part of the American Army."

In the old records the name Inclenberg frequently appears. It is of Dutch origin, and is supposed to signify Fire Beacon Hill, by which name the eminence was known, from the fact that fire beacons were displayed there in Dutch times, to warn the inhabitants of the city, several miles below, of the approach of savage foes.

Oliver Delancy, who joined the British forces during the Revolution, had a country home there before the Murray home, and a record of 1751 gives Mr. Delancy "leave to lay out a road all around Inclenberg for the convenience of riding around the same."



The Oldest House Foot of Murray Hill Cor 34th Ave. and 34th St 1858

Bought for \$62,000.

Murray Hill at that time was steeper than it is today. With much of the adjoining land, it formed part of the common lands of the city. Robert Murray at first leased his farm from the city, but in 1806 it was purchased by his son, John Murray, for \$62,000. It contained about thirty acres. One block of the old Murray farm today, the block occupied by the Morgan houses, from Madison to Park Avenues, Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Streets, the greater part of which is owned by Mr. Morgan, is assessed (the land alone) at over \$3,250,000.

The Murray country house, an imposing residence in the Colonial style, stood near the corner of Park Avenue and Thirty-sixth Street. It was burned in 1834. Robert Murray, the wealthy Quaker, died in 1786, and his will, which is recorded in the Surrogates' Office, leaves to his daughter Susannah "my household estate on the farm at Inclenberg, which I hold from the City of New York."

Before the Revolution Mr. Murray was one of five citizens who owned a private carriage. The Governor had one, as did Lieut. Gov. Colden, the others being Mrs. Alexander and Gerard Walton, the wealthy merchant of Pearl Street. It is said that Mr. Murray called his carriage "my leather conveniency," to avoid scandal and vainglory. One of his sons was Lindley Murray, the famous grammarian. Another son, John, followed the father's footsteps as a successful merchant.

Although one of the richest men in the city, the elder Murray was very economical, and a story is told how once two ladies visited him in his

town house in Pearl Street to ask for a contribution for a charitable cause. Mr. Murray was writing at the time, and two lighted candles were on his desk. As he turned to greet his visitors, he blew out one candle. "We won't get much here," remarked one of the women. Mr. Murray listened to the appeal, and then gave his check for \$100. It was received with surprise, and the woman who had made the remark told of the expression she had used.

"That is the reason why I am able to let thee have \$100," replied the Quaker. "It is by practicing economy that I save up my money with which to do little acts of charity."

The year 1847 was an important one for Murray Hill as in that year the restrictive agreement was enacted which has been fought for more strenuously than any other restriction ever imposed upon a parcel of property in New York City. It embraced both sides of Thirty-fourth Street and the blocks to the north to Thirty-eighth Street, only taking in the south side of that street, bounded east by the Eastern Post Road, now Lexington Avenue, and on the west by the Middle Road, later absorbed into Madison Avenue. The change of line of these old roads, when the new thoroughfares according to the regular city plan were cut through, leaves most of the Lexington Avenue frontage outside of the restricted zone, and a portion of the Madison Avenue front between Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth Streets.

The fact that most of this block front lay outside of the restrictive agreement led the court a few years ago to decide in favor of the Cameron business build-

Continued on page 18

ing, on the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street, the first big trade invasion within the zone, and which was bitterly fought by the late J. Pierpont Morgan and his associates.

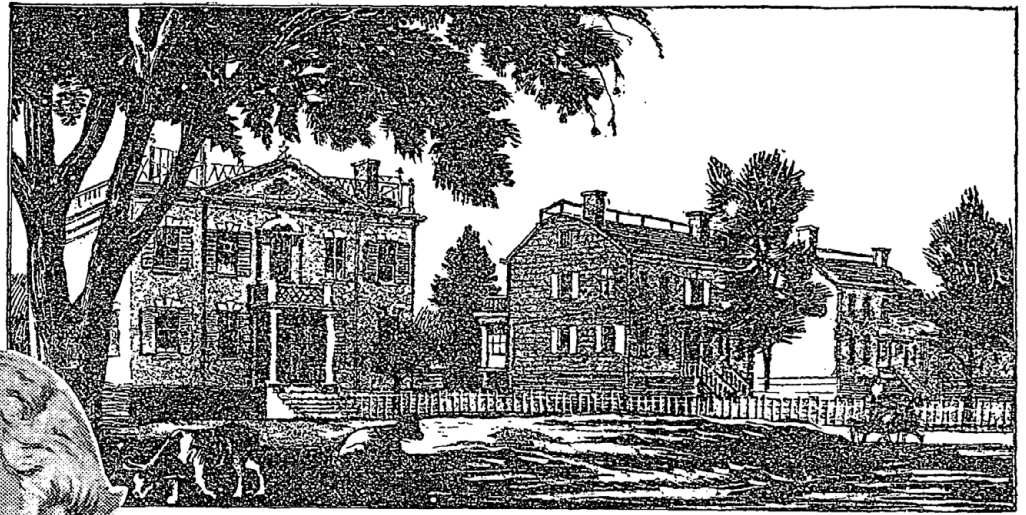
There was a northward residential movement soon after the restriction went into effect. One of the early homes was an imposing house on Madison Avenue, between Thirtieth and Thirty-first Streets, just below Murray Hill. It was erected by Jacob Vanderpoel, and Valentine's Manual for 1859 published a picture of it, saying:

This entire section of the city is being rapidly converted into the court end of the town and is beautified by costly and elegant residences oc-

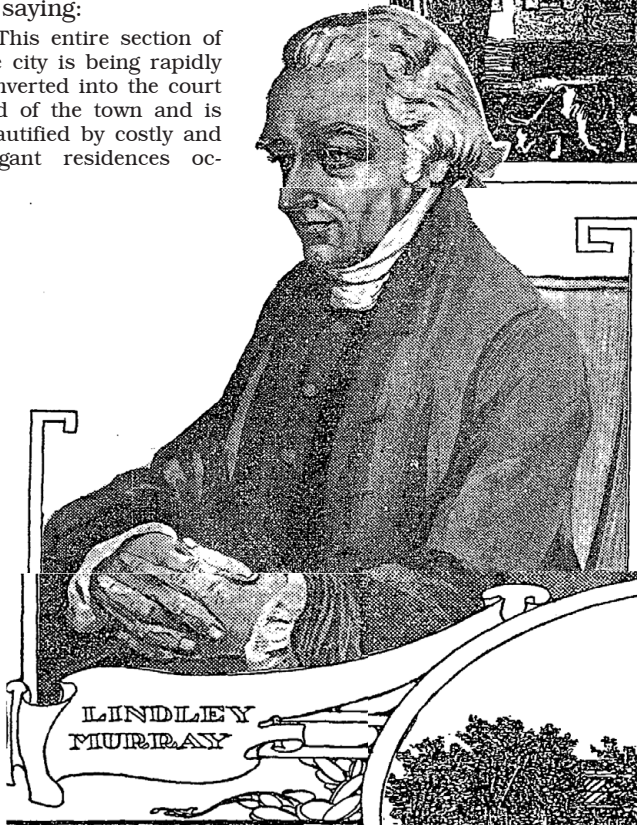
with brown sandstone dressings, the color of which does not quite harmonize with the yellowish gray of the walls. A conservatory and various offices extend to the left; there is also a Gothic cottage lodge on the north side of the garden, of which, and of the whole

north, are owned by Jennie W. Delano, Justice F. M. Scott, Elizabeth T. Nichols, Edward W. Sheldon, Anna V. Jennings, and Kate W. Winthrop.

The first serious effort to break into



Old Residences on Murray Hill ~ Lexington Ave. Near 37th St. on the Old Boston Post-Road, 1858



LINDLEY MURRAY

cupied by many of our principal citizens. It is but a few years since that cultivated fields extended far below the site here indicated.

Another house of generous proportions and social distinction was the Waddington Wadell mansion at Fifth Avenue and Thirty-seventh Street, where the Brick Church now stands. In 1854 a writer in Putnam's Monthly said:

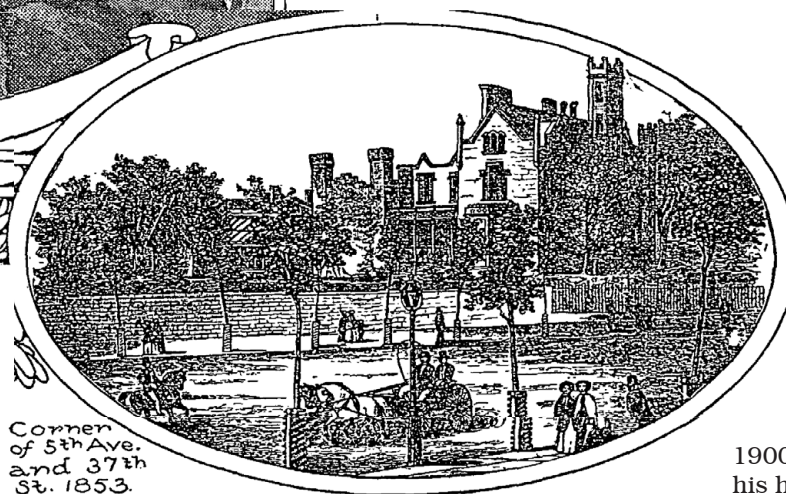
It may be called a suburban villa and is remarkable for being inclosed in its own garden ground, which is as high as the original level of the island and descends by sloping grass banks to the grade of the street. The general composition and effect are picturesque and commendable, notwithstanding an occasional want of character and correctness in details. It is build of brick, stuccoed,

enue, on the east side, between Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh Streets, and erected three fine houses. The southernmost house, that on the Thirty-sixth Street corner, was later the home of Walter William Phelps, and it was bought by the late J. Pierpont Morgan in 1886 for about \$215,000. The price was called excessive at the time.

It was Mr. Morgan's first purchase in the block, and the house became his home. About ten years ago he acquired the other two houses, on the Thirty-seventh Street corner, becoming the home of his son, while the Stokes house, in the middle of the block, was torn down and the land used for a garden. Before that, in

1900, Mr. Morgan increased his holdings on Thirty-sixth Street, and on this plot his

library building, which houses the Morgan book collection, was built. Adjoining the library is the residence of Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Satterlee, the latter being Mr. Morgan's daughter. In the rear of the library, fronting on the south side of Thirty-seventh Street, is the residence of Charles Lanier. The six dwellings on the Park Avenue side of the block, from Thirty-sixth Street



Corner of 5th Ave. and 37th St. 1853.

ground, a fine view is obtained from the terrace of the Croton Reservoir, while two or three old trees still standing in the garden on that side add to the semi-rural character to the edifice.

Among the pioneer residents in the restricted Murray Hill zone were J. J. Phelps, William E. Dodge, and Isaac N. Phelps Stokes, who about 1856, bought the block front on Madison Av-

the Murray Hill restriction occurred several years ago, when apartment houses were erected on the south side of Thirty-fourth Street, at the Lexington Avenue corner, adjoining the Seventy-first Regiment Armory. It was something new for Murray Hill, and some tenants raised considerable opposition. There were no Morgan or other influential interests then ready to fight anything that did not fulfill the strictest meaning of the private home agreement, and the apartment houses were completed without legal difficulty. Moreover, Thirty-fourth Street was an active crosstown thoroughfare with a horse-car line. It was not as important as it has become in recent years, but little by little the presence of the surface cars weakened the residential features of the street within the Murray Hill zone. It is interesting to bear this in mind, for within the last three years, especially since the opening of the big Vanderbilt Hotel, the two blocks of Thirty-fourth Street between Lexington and Madison Avenues have assumed a decided business appearance.

Is Not Restricted.

Before the Vanderbilt Hotel was started it was intimated that legal action would be instituted by the guardians of Murray Hill against it. The hotel work went right along. No effort has been made to keep business out of the Thirty-fourth Street restricted blocks, as it is evidently recognized that the business character of that thoroughfare and the Fifth Avenue blocks to the west have effectually disposed of the restriction so far as it applies to that street.

Although many of the old houses on Thirty-fourth Street have been converted into trade, only one modern building of the office and loft type has gone up, the twelve-story Cameron Building on the northeast corner of Madison Avenue and Thirty-fourth Street. The erection of this building was the rudest commercial shock that the district ever experienced. The matter was in the courts for over three years and finally resulted in a victory for the Camerons. Sarah C. Goodhue, who resided in the Madison Avenue house adjoining the building applied for an injunction against the erection of the structure in 1908 and soon after she was joined by the late J. Pierpont Morgan, his son, Mrs. Morris K. Jesup, John E. Parsons, Charles Lanier, and Mrs. Mary A. Hoyt.

The Camerons were bolder builders than the usual class of operators,

for they went ahead and finished the big structure before the final decision of the case. Instead of being ordered to tear it down, the referee, Charles F. Brown, decided in favor of the business invaders, but he only did so because it was clearly shown that the Cameron Building covered but a fractions of the restricted area. The old line of the Middle Road, which was just east of the present line of Madison Avenue, took the greater part of that Thirty-fourth Street corner out of the restricted area.

Another Court Battle.

About a year after the decision of the Cameron Building case the Murray Hill residents found that they had another enemy to deal with, and after a legal battle they won. The stable at 126 East Thirty-eighth Street, near the Lexington Avenue corner, had been leased to a milk company. The stable was owned by the widow of the late Collis P. Huntington, now Mrs. Archer M. Huntington, and suit was brought against her by some of the residents, on the ground that the milk concern was engaged in business. The business, moreover, was of a very annoying character, as it was shown that several thousand bottles were washed and filled at night and that big milk wagons began to arrive soon after 2 o'clock in the morning.

The Murray Hill guardians had everything in their favor in this case, for they were able to show that the neighborhood was purely one of private homes. Justice Leventritt, who wrote the opinion which ousted the milk business from Murray Hill, took this view of the case, while at the same time apparently admitting that in Thirty-fourth Street the restriction could not be upheld.

This case materially strengthened the restrictive force, and it seems probable that it will be some time before business again attempts to invade the area from the north.

But the Murray Hill guardians now have another case to fight, and it affects what has for years been one of the choice corners of the district—the southeast corner of Madison Avenue and Thirty-eighth Street, occupied by the old South Reformed Church. This church has long been a landmark. A few years ago the church moved to Park Avenue and Eighty-fifth Street to a new building.

The old property was sold, the buy-

ers agreeing to take it provided the church officers would defend a suit to break the Murray Hill restriction, so that the buyers might erect a ten-story apartment house on the corner. The suit has been taken to the Appellate Division on the agreement of both sides to the questions of fact, and it is expected that argument on the technical question of whether a big apartment is a private residence or not will be heard within a short time. In some cases apartment houses have been held as coming within the definition of a private home. The Murray Hill residents in the upper part of the zone feel that a towering apartment would be practically as bad as a commercial building.

How jealously the guardians of the district are protecting their type of single family houses was illustrated in the effort made by George F. Baker and his son, who live just north of the restricted zone on Madison Avenue, to prevent the erection of a tall apartment house on the northwest corner of Madison Avenue and Thirty-eighth Street. The Bakers, it is said, spent over \$1,000,000 to maintain the ancient privacy of that neighborhood. Over five years ago a syndicate of operators bought the large corner, tore down the buildings and filed plans for an apartment house. To block the plan Mr. Baker, Jr. bought the corner.

On the upper part of the same block are the two Baker residences, and they considered that a big apartment would destroy the character of the block. Mr. Baker hoped that one or more wealthy residents interested in Murray Hill would buy the corner for a large home. It was thought at one time that George W. Perkins would purchase the plot, but he decided to go elsewhere.

For over three years this \$1,000,000 corner, fronting 1000 feet on Madison Avenue, being half of the block front and 75 feet on Thirty-eighth Street remained vacant. Then, evidently giving up the idea that any one would build there, especially as the corner did not have the benefit of the restrictive agreement, Mr. Baker had a professional four-story building erected which, while a business structure, is of such a nature a so simple and artistic in appearance that it does not give offense to Murray Hill.

The New York Times

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What's New at Murray Hill's Metropolitan Synagogue

Cantor Nancy Bach is now serving her second year at the Metropolitan Synagogue as Cantor and Director of the Hebrew Home Studies program, having received her Cantorial Ordination from the Debbie Friedman School of Sacred Music at Hebrew Union College in Spring 2013. Until very recently, she proudly served as Student Cantor, and the sole Cantorial presence, at the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue (BHS) from 2010-2013. At BHS, she tutored all the B'nei Mitzvah students, led services, taught in the classroom, officiated at Life-Cycle events and led a number of collaborative worship and cultural programs.

Nancy loves the work of creating meaningful teaching and worship experiences. Both on the bimah and through her love of teaching children and adults in the classroom, Nancy brings her voice and a sense of creativity, joy and rigor which she hopes will always instill welcoming and connection with the teachings of Judaism, and help us reach both within as individuals and out to each other as a wider community. Nancy also does a fair amount of work with unaffiliated Jews in Manhattan and Brooklyn, and takes great pride and care in fostering Jewish connections with people who come from a variety of backgrounds and experiences.

Prior to the Brooklyn Heights Synagogue, Nancy worked at The Stephen Wise Free Synagogue, Hebrew Tabernacle Congregation and Central Synagogue in Manhattan. At Central Synagogue, she will be teaching an Introduction to Judaism class for students interested in possibly converting to Judaism in the 2013-14 season. Nancy has also served as Student Cantor at Congregation Children of Israel in Augusta, GA.

She loves to run, do yoga, cook, ski and see as much theater as she can. Before beginning her Cantorial studies, Nancy worked in the fields of Musical Theater and Corporate Arts

Marketing. Nancy grew up in Manhattan, attended the Nightingale-Bamford School for 12 years, and received her B.A. in Semiotics, with a focus on Theater and Music, from Brown University. Cantor Bach is expecting her first child in the Fall of 2013. Learn more at: <http://www.metropolitan-synagogue.org/about.php#cantor>

Metropolitan Synagogue High Holiday Services

Rosh Hashana September 24-25 2014

September 24: Erev Rosh Hashana: 7:30 pm

September 25: Morning of Rosh Hashana: 10:00 am

Yom Kippur October 3-4 2014

October 3: Kol Nidre: 7:30 pm

October 4: Morning of Yom Kippur: 10:00 am

Yizkor: 5:00-5:30 pm

Neilah: 5:30 pm

Break Fast 6:15 pm

Services will take place at Metropolitan Synagogue, located at The Community Church, 40 East 35th Street (between Park and Madison). There is a suggested donation of \$125 per holiday.

If interested in attending services please contact the Metropolitan Synagogue by email at inquiries@metropolitansynagogue.org or call us at (212) 679-8580

Everyone who wants to attend must be registered ahead of time. Payment is accepted at the door but you must be on the list to attend.

SAVE THE DATE

MHNA ANNUAL MEETING

September 18, 2014, 7:00 pm

ARMENIAN EVANGELICAL CHURCH

152 East 34th Street

(between Lexington and Third Avenues)

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, Sept, 17, 2014, 12 - 2 PM

10th Anniversary Celebration of LIBRARY WAY
New York Public Library, Fifth Avenue & 41st Street

Celebrating the installation of 96 Bronze Plaques,
on 41st Street, Park Avenue to Fifth Avenue,
with quotes by famous authors.

FREE and open to the public.

See more information on pg. # 13

Sponsored by Grand Central Partnership, New York
Public Library and Murray Hill Neighborhood Association.