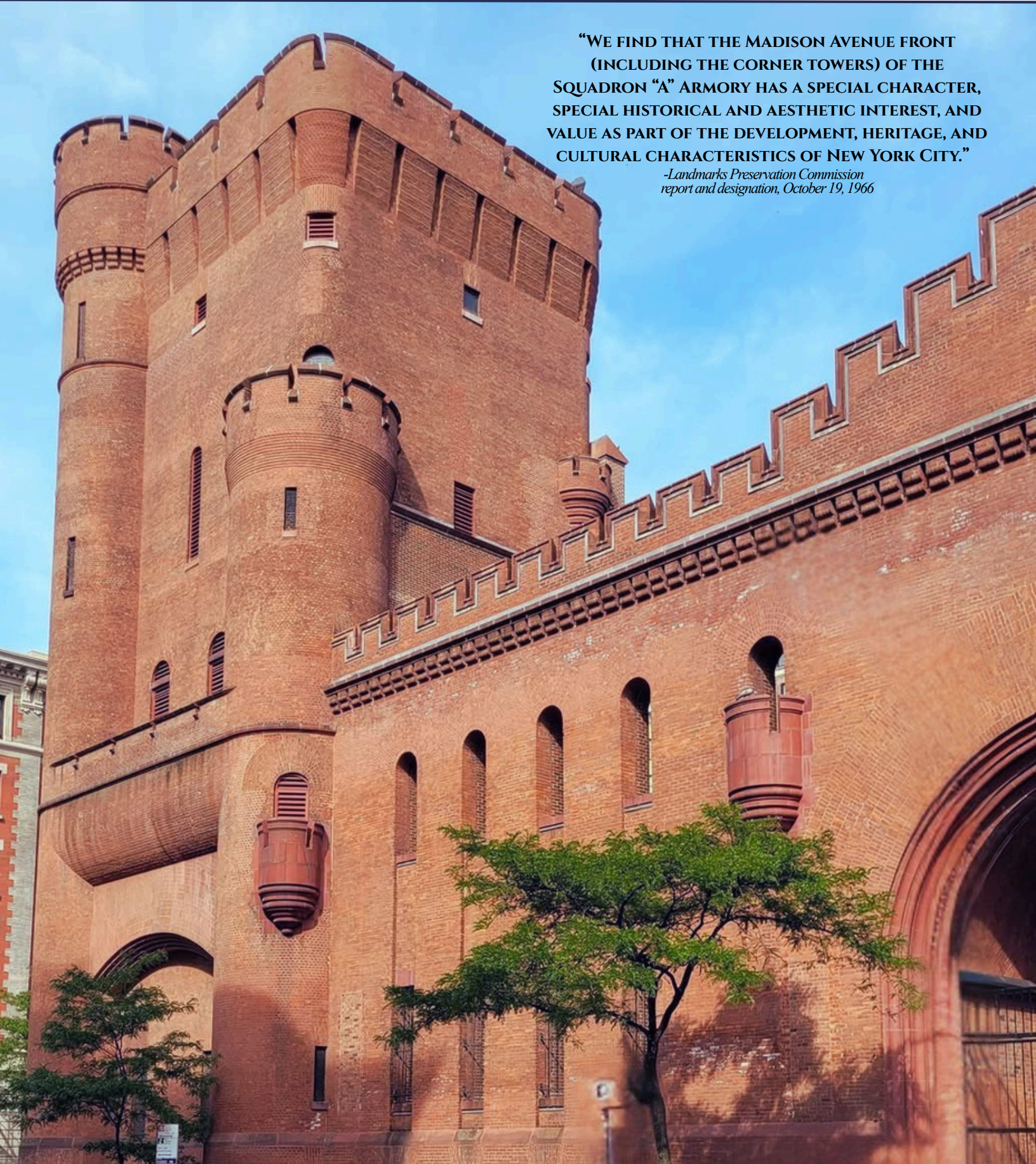


**"WE FIND THAT THE MADISON AVENUE FRONT
(INCLUDING THE CORNER TOWERS) OF THE
SQUADRON "A" ARMORY HAS A SPECIAL CHARACTER,
SPECIAL HISTORICAL AND AESTHETIC INTEREST, AND
VALUE AS PART OF THE DEVELOPMENT, HERITAGE, AND
CULTURAL CHARACTERISTICS OF NEW YORK CITY."**

*-Landmarks Preservation Commission
report and designation, October 19, 1966*



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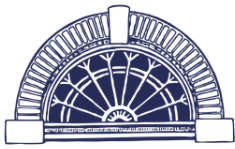
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CARNEGIE HILL NEWS SPRING 2026

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Photos by Susan Hoehn

CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS SPRING CALENDAR

Pocket Park: Spring Clean and Celebration

Enjoy the beautiful daffodils and tulips we planted last fall, and join us in painting the metal fences along the park's perimeter. 97th Street and Park Avenue, Sunday, April 12, 10 a.m.–noon. Dress to paint.

Cara Cara x CHN: Find the perfect outfit for our Spring Benefit! Proceeds benefit CHN. Cara Cara, 1265 Madison Avenue, Tuesday, April 21, 4–7 p.m.

2026 Spring Benefit: A Night at the Armory Thursday, April 30, 6:30–9 p.m., Squadron A Armory – Madison Avenue Entrance (between 94th and 95th Streets). Purchase tickets via our website.

CHN Walking Tour: Jane's Walk Join CHN for the city-wide walk in honor of the late community activist Jane Jacobs, led by CHN President Lo van der Valk. Saturday, May 2, 3–4:30 p.m., and Sunday, May 3, 3–4:30 p.m. Reserve your spot via our website.

Electronics & Textiles Recycling Collection

In partnership with LES Ecology Center. It's time for spring cleaning. Bring your items to the CHN office, 1326 Madison Avenue, Saturday, May 30, 10 a.m.–2 p.m.

Volunteer Cocktails and Celebration

Thank you for a wonderful year! Join us to learn more about volunteering with Carnegie Hill Neighbors as we raise a glass to celebrate the many volunteer hours neighbors donated this year. CHN office, Thursday, June 4, 6–8 p.m.

CHN Inaugural Neighborhood Audio Tour

Beginning Tuesday, June 9, at the 48th annual Museum Mile Festival, enjoy *Museum Mile & Fifth Avenue Highlights*, an audio walking tour of the neighborhood designed in partnership with Bloomberg Connects. Be on the lookout for more information.

NOTEWORTHY EVENTS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS

Diller Quaille School of Music
Free entry. **Faculty Concert**, Thursday, April 23, 7 p.m. **Spring Ensemble Concert**, Monday, May 11, 7 p.m., 4 East 95th Street, 212-369-1484, diller-quaille.org

The Brick Church Presbyterian Church
Strawberry Festival: Live music, games, hot dogs, strawberry shortcake, and ice cream. Sunday, May 17, 12:15–2 p.m., Park Avenue at 92nd Street, 212-289-4400, brickchurch.org

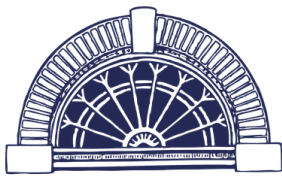
Church of the Heavenly Rest
Block 90 Festival, part of the Museum Mile Festival. Tuesday, June 9, 1085 Fifth Avenue, 212-289-3400, heavenlyrest.org

48th Annual Museum Mile Festival

Enjoy free access to some of the world's top art collections, along with outdoor activities, face painting, and music. Tuesday, June 9, 6–9 p.m., Fifth Avenue from 82nd to 110th Streets.

House of the Redeemer

Fabrizio Chamber Concert featuring the Toomai String Quintet, Wednesday, May 27, at 6:30 p.m. **Garden Party**, Thursday, June 4, 6:30–9 p.m. Call 212-289-0399 to purchase tickets. 7 East 95th Street, houseoftheredeemer.org



**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
CHRISTIN BRECHER**



Happy Spring to Carnegie Hill!

It is delightful to see Carnegie Hill in full bloom as the warm weather greets us after a blustery winter. We appreciate the community's support throughout our year-end appeal, which accounts for over 30 percent of our annual budget and helps us keep our office running and our organization prepared for the challenges we face each year, such as emergency snow removal on the Park Avenue malls' sidewalks in January when snow and ice became hazardous. Thank you, neighbors!

Every spring, it's a pleasure to celebrate CHN's efforts to transform Carnegie Hill with a vibrant display of tulips along Park Avenue. Not only do the flowers honor our historic neighborhood, but they also remind us of the power of community involvement. In 1979, Carnegie Hill united to turn our malls from neglected public spaces into the beautifully designed areas that stretch down the avenue today. Thanks to the financial contributions from our Park Avenue buildings, Carnegie Hill Neighbors has been able to care for these malls for over 45 years. We deeply appreciate these buildings for their ongoing support, and we're pleased to share the list of contributors who have already donated to the 2026 program.

Last fall, we asked the community to vote for their favorite tulip color, which led to the gorgeous pink blossoms. We hope you enjoy these carefully curated flowers. Although the tulip blooms come and go quickly, the bulbs remain. In May, be on the lookout for information from us about when you can dig up these bulbs to replant at home. This is a fun opportunity for gardeners and families, and landscaper, Bulfamante & Sons, has promised to provide us with the ideal dates for this "Big Dig."

I hope you will be pleased to learn about the work we are doing to preserve and protect our history through thoughtful preservation, quality-of-life programs, and community events that enrich residents and local businesses. Additionally, this newsletter highlights local events, exhibits, and personalities in our neighborhood.

Carnegie Hill Neighbors is excited about our 2026 Spring Benefit at the former Squadron A Armory on Madison Avenue and 94th Street on Thursday, April 30. This historic location is a first for us. Read more about it on page 11. I look forward to raising a glass with you to celebrate Carnegie Hill and our collective efforts to keep this historic neighborhood so special.

Best wishes,



Christin Brecher
Executive Director, Carnegie Hill Neighbors



Thank you

WE ARE GRATEFUL TO THESE PARK AVENUE BUILDINGS AND FRIENDS FOR THEIR MALLS SUPPORT. WE ARE EXCITED BY THE STRONG RESPONSE AS WE STRIVE TO REACH OUR 100% PARTICIPATION GOAL!

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49 EAST 86TH STREET
64 EAST 86TH STREET

As of March 27



Bulfamante & Sons clears the Park Avenue mall sidewalks of deep snow and dangerous ice after the January storm.

NEW FACES

In December, we welcomed Luke Daly as CHN's Project Management Assistant. In his short time at CHN, he has taken the lead in developing CHN's audio tour, Museum Mile and Fifth Avenue Highlights, launching June 9 in partnership with Bloomberg Connects. A native New Yorker who attended Trinity High School and Colorado College, Luke might be a familiar face to some, as he also bartends several nights a week at The District on Third Avenue at 94th Street.



In January, college intern Andrea Marini, a political science major from Baruch College, joined our team. Andrea grew up in the neighborhood and says she is happy working at CHN because, "I love history and helping CHN preserve the neighborhood with such care." Andrea will be working with us through May before she graduates in June, but she will remain a presence in the neighborhood as she works at Island restaurant.

DECADES OF DESIGN

When she retired from the CHN Board of Directors in 2017, **Cynthia MacGrath** was given emeritus status, but she was not finished volunteering for the organization.

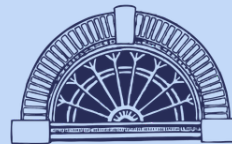
Starting in 1984, Cynthia wrote for the newsletter, and in 2001, she became its designer, a position she held through last fall. Cynthia's talent in design is the key to what has made the newsletter so professional, and because she can write, she made sure that every page read as well as it looked.

Cynthia's outstanding contribution was producing the *Carnegie Hill Architectural Guide* in 2008, managing around 35 volunteer writers, editors, researchers, fact-checkers, artists, and photographers, while guiding the publication process. This year, the walking tours she created for the guide will be converted into audio tours.

Cynthia's daughter Dana tells us, "Cynthia knew from an early age that she was drawn to the field of art and design." After high school, with ambitions for a career in fashion advertising, Cynthia attended the Traphagen School of Fashion and Design in New York City. She held various positions with advertising agencies, then spent decades as an art director and manager at J.C. Penney. When the company relocated to Texas, she became a freelance graphic designer, all the while teaching graphic design as an adjunct professor at the New York City College of Technology.

While volunteering at CHN, Cynthia also offered her design talents to her building's newsletter and created posters for her community at Point O' Woods, Fire Island, and, in recent years, the Cosmopolitan Club.

We at Carnegie Hill Neighbors will strive to continue producing this newsletter to the high design standard Cynthia set, and we will greatly miss her able hand.



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CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS CARES FOR OUR HISTORIC NEIGHBORHOOD, WHERE MORE THAN HALF THE STREETS ARE LISTED ON HISTORIC REGISTERS AND 28 BUILDINGS ARE DESIGNATED INDIVIDUAL LANDMARKS. WE PRESERVE OUR ARCHITECTURAL HERITAGE, PROTECT QUALITY OF LIFE, OFFER CULTURALLY RELEVANT EDUCATION, AND FOSTER A STRONG COMMUNITY SO THAT RESIDENTS AND LOCAL BUSINESSES THRIVE.

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As of March 30, 2026



Photo by Susan Hoehn

CARNEGIE HILL VILLAGE

Helping seniors stay connected at home
and in the neighborhood.



Carnegie Hill Village is part of a nationwide movement helping people as they age to keep living in the communities where they have established strong and supportive roots.

WANT TO HAVE MORE FUN? MAKE NEW FRIENDS?

JOIN OUR LIVELY SENIORS.

We have frequent "meet and mix" gatherings and join each other for dinners and lunches, and other regular meetings of different interest groups.

GROUPS

History
Meditation
Discussion
Short Stories
Poetry TED
Talks Walking

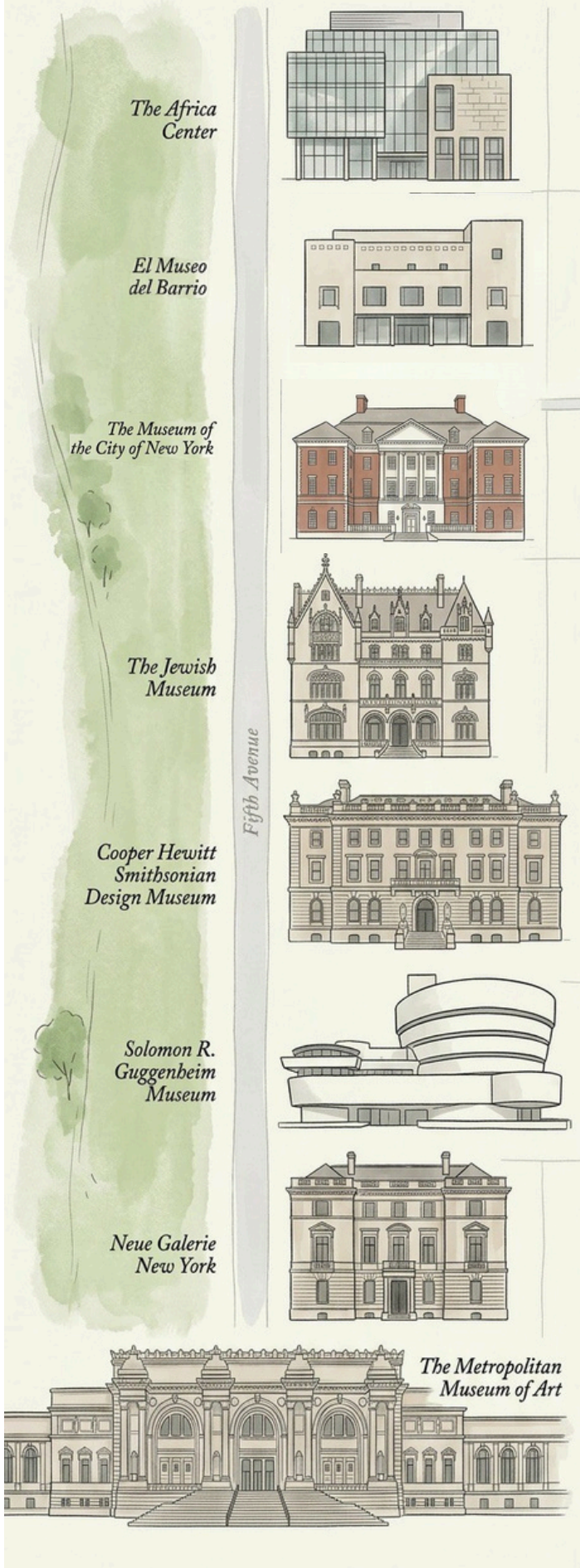


EVENTS

Lunches and dinners
Concerts
Docent-led museum tours
Cocktail receptions
Health and medical talks
iPhone workshops
iPhone photo classes

For more information, and to become a member, go to our website:
carnegiehillvillage.org

MUSEUM MILE WALK



The Africa Center

El Museo del Barrio

The Museum of the City of New York

The Jewish Museum

Cooper Hewitt Smithsonian Design Museum

Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum

Neue Galerie New York

The Metropolitan Museum of Art

S



SPRING AWAKENS ON MUSEUM MILE WITH AN ESPECIALLY VIBRANT ARRAY OF ART AVAILABLE TO ALL, RIGHT AT OUR DOORSTEP. WANDER FIFTH AVENUE TO SEE THE ARTISTIC NARRATIVE UNFOLD WITH EXHIBITIONS FOR EVERY INTEREST AND CURIOSITY. ELIZABETH L. REEDE, CURATOR, ADVISOR, AND ART HISTORIAN, HIGHLIGHTS SOME OF THE SHOWS YOU SHOULD NOT MISS.



THE METROPOLITAN MUSEUM OF ART

Raphael: Sublime Poetry (through June 28) is a once-in-a-lifetime show and the first comprehensive exhibition on Raphael in the United States, featuring more than 200 masterpieces. Tracing the full breadth of this Italian Renaissance master's career, the exhibition highlights Raphael's depiction of women—from intimate Madonna and Child scenes to pioneering studies of the nude. themet.org



EL MUSEO DEL BARRIO

Sophie Rivera: Double Exposures (April 23–August 2) Shifting the focus from idealized form to lived experience, Rivera's photographs place individuals within their homes and communities, capturing presence with clarity and restraint. elmuseo.org



THE JEWISH MUSEUM

A fresh take on the artist, *Paul Klee Other Possible Worlds* (through July 26), examines how inner life and memory are expressed in modern visual language, bridging figuration and abstraction. Also on display (through May 31), *Joan Semmel: In the Flesh* offers a focused, unsentimental look at the human form. jewishmuseum.org



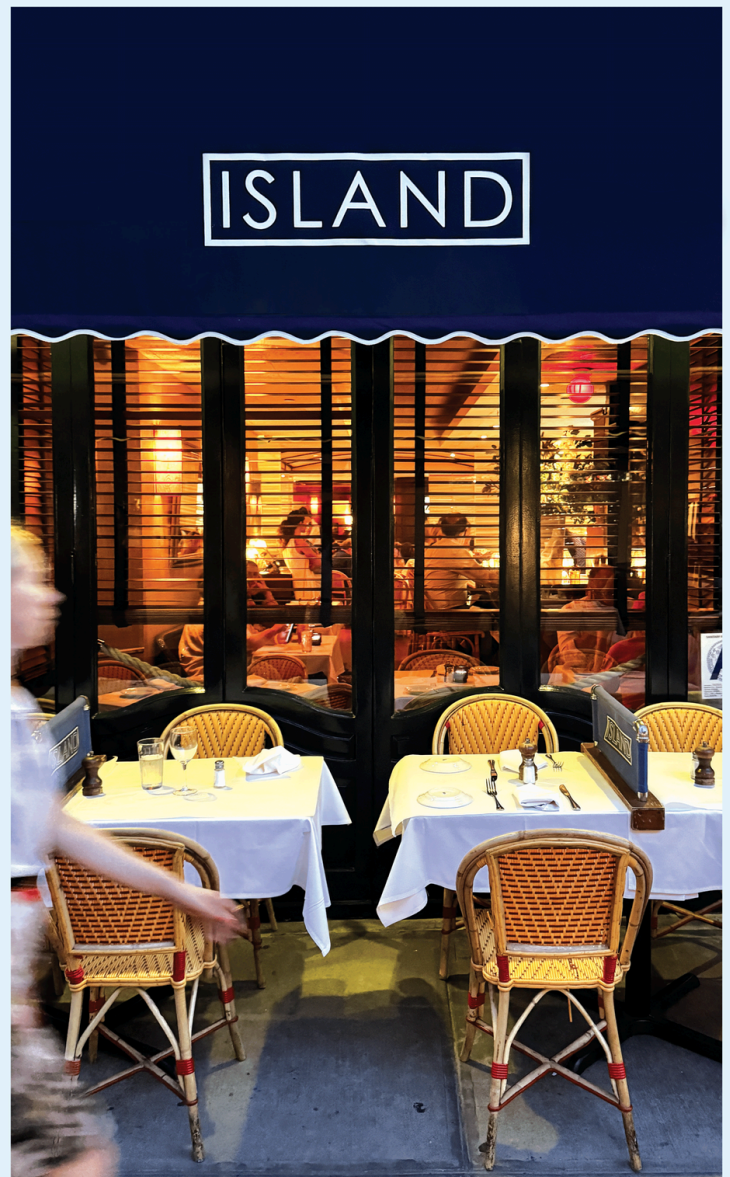
COOPER HEWITT SMITHSONIAN DESIGN MUSEUM

The *Art of Noise* exhibition (through August 16) reveals how sound, materials, and form engage the body through movement and perception. cooperhewitt.org



SOLOMON R. GUGGENHEIM MUSEUM

The *Carol Bove* exhibition (through August 2) distills these historical concerns into contemporary form. Although abstract, Bove's sculptures maintain a strong sense of scale and balance, inviting viewers to experience space in relation to their own bodies. Her work completes the seasonal arc, demonstrating how the human presence endures through proportion, material, and restraint, rather than literal representation. guggenheim.org



Carnegie Hill Since 1986

1305 Madison Ave

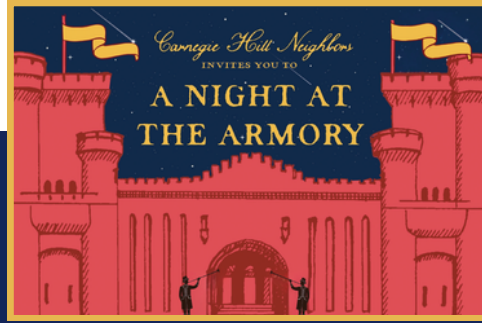
islandny.com
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212.996.1200



THURSDAY, APRIL 30
6:30-9 P.M.

THE SQUADRON A ARMORY
MADISON AVENUE GATE
BETWEEN 94TH AND 95TH STREETS



IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO
BUY TICKETS!

PLEASE VISIT OUR WEBSITE
OR SCAN THE QR CODE



CARNEGIEHILLNEIGHBORS.ORG/2026BENEFIT

We're opening the Gates

We are thrilled to host this year's spring benefit! With the support from the CHN board and the organization's internal team, we've taken on the challenge of creating a unique experience at one of the neighborhood's most distinctive structures. Emphasizing CHN's dedication to landmark advocacy, preservation, and the adaptive reuse of historic buildings to meet modern needs, there is no finer example than the Squadron A Armory. You can read about its rich history on the opposite page. In homage to the cavalry unit's original riding ring, which also served as an entertainment venue in the post-war years, we will be tenting the interior courtyard, serving cocktails and canapés, projecting historical footage and current neighborhood images on large screens, and lighting the towers and turrets to illuminate the armory's majestic architecture. As an added highlight, the Hunter College Campus Schools, occupants of the space since 1974, have granted us permission to open the Madison Avenue gates, which remain locked throughout the year. The Madison Avenue entrance is part of the only surviving facade of the original armory. Landmarked in 1966, it was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1973. In line with CHN's mission to support the neighborhood's treasured local businesses, the evening's honoree will be the Feldman family, whose multigenerational S. Feldman Housewares, Inc., has been serving the community since 1929. (See page 12 for more on Feldman's.) The enthusiasm surrounding this choice has underscored the fact that everyone loves Feldman's! We hope you will join us on Thursday, April 30, for fun, festivities, friends, and familiar faces. Please support CHN in its biggest fundraising event of the year. Proceeds benefit initiatives that improve quality of life, including safety, tree care and maintenance, historical preservation, and culturally relevant programs and events.

Looking forward to celebrating with you,
Co-chairs, Punch Hutton & Kelly Milam



Honoring

THE FELDMAN FAMILY

S.FELDMAN HOUSEWARES INC.
A CARNEGIE HILL STAPLE SINCE 1929

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A CASTLE ON THE HILL

THE RICH HISTORY OF THE SQUADRON A ARMORY

BY PUNCH HUTTON

In 1884, an elite group of gentlemen riders, many from prominent New York families, formed a social equestrian club called the First New York Hussars or First Dragoons. They rode at Dickel's Riding Academy, at 39th Street and Fifth Avenue, where they used an assembly room and lockers. Their uniforms were modeled after those of London's 10th Hussars—sky-blue jackets adorned with black braided trim, matching striped breeches, and fur busby hats with daffodil yellow piping (image below). When they rode in parades and festivals, they stood out for their impeccable regalia and exquisitely groomed horses.



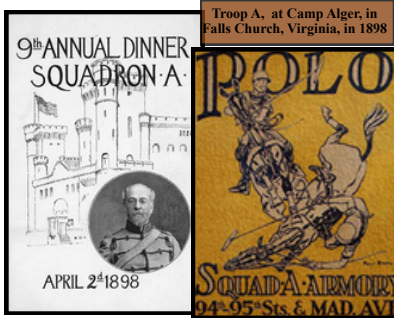
Since the end of the Civil War in 1865, there had been no cavalry units in the Eastern states. Concerned about the lack of an official mounted presence in New York, a major urban area, the military mustered the 53-man riding society into the first official

arm of the New York National Guard. They were renamed "Troop A" and placed under the command of Charles F. Roe, a West Point-trained Civil War veteran. By 1893, Troop A had grown to include 112 men and was divided into two troops, forming Squadron A. At this point, they had outgrown Dickel's and needed a dedicated armory.

Architect John Rochester Thomas was commissioned to build his second armory on the block bordered by Park Avenue to Madison Avenue, between 94th and 95th streets. In 1888, he had designed the Eighth Regiment Armory for the unit known as the "Washington Greys." The plan was to have the Squadron A Armory abutting the existing one from the west, with its entrance on Madison Avenue.

The cornerstone was laid on July 10, 1894, bearing the unit's motto "Boutez en Avant" (Push to the Front). And on June 7, 1895, Squadron A officially moved into its new, though not yet finished, "ancient Norman castellated style" headquarters, according to the *New York Times*, which described it as having "a true military appearance" with "square towers on either end, lancet windows, balconies, crenellations and turrets, and monumental arches."

A black-tie ball was held on January 31, 1896, in the 85-foot-long hall on the 95th Street side to celebrate the armory's official opening. Guests explored the three-story



Troop A, at Camp Alger, in Falls Church, Virginia, in 1898



Armory, 8th Regiment N. Y. St. Guard, New York



"castle," marveling at the reading room, workspaces, kitchens, 100 underground horse stalls, 200-foot pistol range, and ample sleeping quarters. The highlight was the 197-foot-long, 87-foot-wide riding and drill ring in the center, protected by a glass-and-iron ceiling. Climbing the winding staircases in the corner towers, guests stepped onto the mezzanine level, taking in the drill ring below from the broad viewing gallery encircling it.

Squadron A engaged in active duty—most significantly in the Spanish-American War of 1898 and later in France in 1917 as part of the WWI-era 105th Machine Gun Battalion, where 80 members did not return home after fighting in Flanders and Ypres.

In 1920, Squadron A took over the Eighth Regiment Armory and combined the two, creating an immense riding ring with elaborate social quarters. During the interwar years, polo matches were held on Saturday evenings, followed by formal dinners attended by glamorous guests. The annual Squadron A Horse Show was a prestigious event, as were afternoon teas. By the 1950s, the armory was as much the home of the Squadron A Polo Club as a military monument.

In the early 1960s, New York State deemed the building impractical, and proposals to demolish the armory and replace it with a 16-story apartment complex and school were announced. Squadron A relocated, and as demolition commenced, community protests to preserve what remained of the armory grew so overwhelming that they overruled the opposition. The Landmarks Preservation Commission acted swiftly, and on October 19, 1966, the Madison Avenue facade was designated as a landmark.

In 1969, the Board of Education hired Morris Ketchum Jr. to design a similarly styled fortress for the new school, P.S. 129, incorporating the old armory facade, which served as a striking backdrop for the playground.

Today, the armory is home to the nationally ranked Hunter College Campus School. The elementary school moved in during 1974, and the high school in 1977. Saved at the last minute, this landmark stands as a remarkable symbol of community pride, building preservation, and distinctive architecture, adding to the rich history of the Carnegie Hill Historic District.

SPECIAL NOTE:
TODAY, SQUADRON A ASSOCIATION HAS MORE THAN 600 MEMBERS WORLDWIDE WHO CONTINUE TO PRESERVE AND FORWARD THE TRADITIONS, MEMORIES, AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF SQUADRON A AND THE HORSE CAVALRY. FOR MORE INFORMATION, GO TO SQUADRONA.ORG

Thank you to the Squadron A Association for the use of the logo and polo images.



Photos by Susan Hoehn (left), LiWen (right)

Randy Goldsmith with father, Scott, whose grandfather founded S. Feldman Housewares in 1929.

SHINING A SPOTLIGHT ON THIS YEAR'S CARNEGIE HILL NEIGHBORS SPRING BENEFIT HONOREE

A family business rooted in community: S. Feldman Housewares nears a century

BY LIWEN

On a recent afternoon in the fresh-air basement of S. Feldman Housewares on Madison Avenue, shelves of neatly stacked merchandise surrounded Scott Goldsmith, the third-generation owner, as he reflected on his life at the family business and his gratitude to the community.

Over the past 40 years, Scott has worked with customers ranging from white-gloved society ladies to local residents he met as children. He has watched merchandise trends come and go, from paints to toys and gifts. “One thing has remained the same—how we feel about doing business,” Scott said with a smile. “It’s a good feeling to take care of customers and help solve their problems. It is a privilege to work here. I’m grateful the community has supported our family for 97 years.”

The store was founded in 1929 by Scott’s grandfather, Sam Feldman, a Russian Jewish immigrant, and his wife, Fannie. Over time, their son Cecil (Scott’s father) took over the store. He died suddenly in 1958. His widow, Edith, ran the store until the early ’60s when she married Nat Goldsmith, who adopted Scott and changed his last name to Goldsmith. “I’m doing the same thing they were doing, and I cherish that connection,” he said, adding he knew that he would end up working in the store ever since he started helping out at eight years old.

Part of the job he enjoys most is discovering products at trade shows, sometimes as far away as Germany, bringing them back to the store, displaying and explaining them to customers. “People

like personal service,” he said. “When we hire, personality is the top priority. Our staff must be good with customers.” Today, the store employs 15 people. “We all want someone to look us in the eye and make us feel appreciated,” Scott continued. “Everyone has a story before they come in: maybe they’re planning a party, or their sink is blocked.”

Online orders surged during the pandemic and now account for about 25 percent of the business, mainly for products not sold on Amazon. Even without face-to-face contact, Scott emphasizes customer service. He still remembers a phone-etiquette book the family kept. “It’s the same principle,” he said. “Be patient and respect everyone.” Once, an employee spent 15 minutes on the phone guiding a customer through his first online purchase. “That’s what we do. We help people,” he added. Among the store’s roughly 10,000 items, best sellers include Miele vacuum cleaners, Le Creuset cookware, light bulbs, party supplies, and greeting cards.

The day of this interview happened to be on Scott’s son Randy’s 37th birthday. Randy proudly showed me the store’s first item he ever sold: a hammer that converts into four screwdrivers. He made the sale when he was just five years old. After years working as a scuba diving instructor in the Cayman Islands, he returned in 2018 to work full-time at the family store. “I will keep doing what we’ve always done,” he said. “But I also want to bring in more modern and cooler products for the growing number of young families in the neighborhood.”

Recently married, Randy and his wife, who is from a small village outside Shanghai, are planning two celebrations. The first, a traditional Jewish wedding on Long Island, will be followed by a wedding party in China, marking his first trip to the country.

In its 97 years, Feldman’s has only closed twice—the day after Sam died on April 12, 1945, and on September 11, 2001. During the pandemic, Scott and his wife, Shari, operated online, leaving purchases outside for customers to pick up. With Randy’s wedding approaching, Scott hopes all employees can attend and is debating whether to close the store for the occasion. “Maybe I’ll keep it open for a few hours,” he said with a smile. “Not for making money, just in case somebody needs something.”



The original S. Feldman Housewares, 1929, located where Island restaurant now stands.



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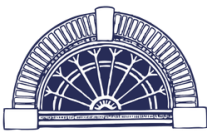
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Security and Graffiti
by **Christin Brecher**

We thank our drivers, **Cody Slaughter** (pictured right) and new team member **Jalen Gueye**, for their dedication during the cold winter months. Feedback indicates that most security issues involve disruptive behavior, loitering, package theft, and vandalism. We encourage residents to refer to the Safety Info Card we delivered to buildings participating in our security and graffiti initiative. You can also pick up a card at our office.

Carnegie Hill Neighbors Safety Patrol

Contact our patrol car at 917.565.0027

Hours of Operation

Monday - Saturday 11 a.m.–3 a.m.

Sunday 11 a.m.– 7 p.m.

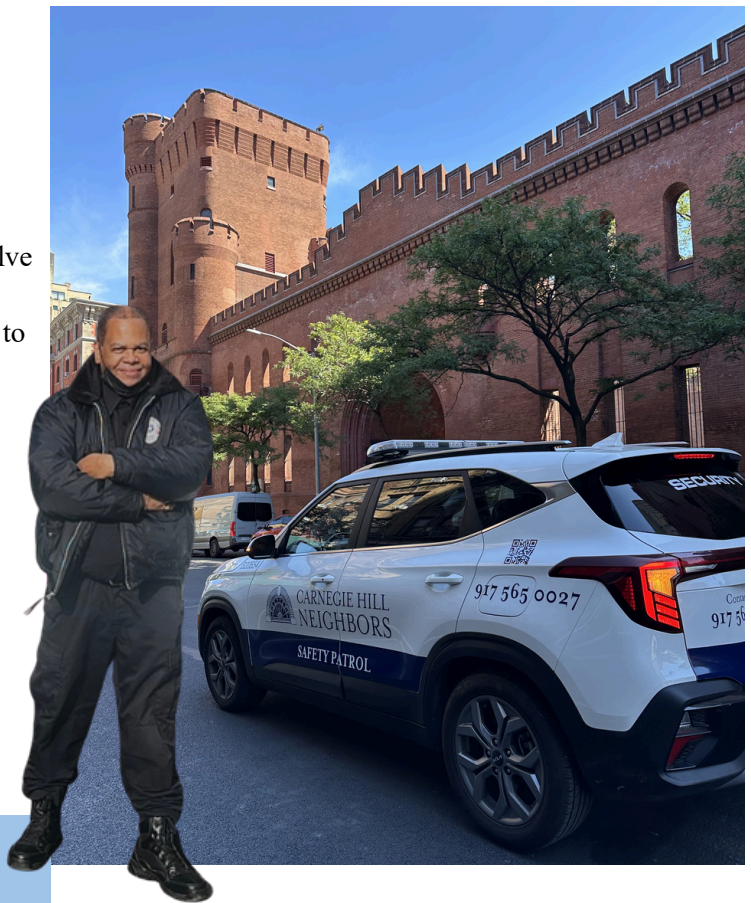
Areas of Operation

86th–96th Streets (Third Avenue–Fifth Avenue)

97th–98th Streets (Madison Avenue–Fifth Avenue)



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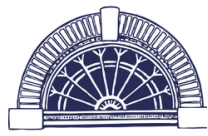
FIFTH AVENUE	LEXINGTON AVENUE
1050 1136	1435, 1476, 1486
1056 1140	EAST 86TH STREET
1067 1148	25, 49, 64
1080 1150	EAST 87TH STREET
1115 1165	47
1125 1170	EAST 88TH STREET
	2, 4, 5, 19, 40
MADISON AVENUE	EAST 89TH STREET
1261, 1326, 1361	50
PARK AVENUE	EAST 90TH STREET
1040 1120	14, 21, 51, 115
1045 1130	EAST 91ST STREET
1049 1133	15, 124
1050 1150	EAST 93RD STREET
1060 1160	24,26
1065 1165	EAST 95TH STREET
1070 1172	3, 4, 7, 17, 19
1075 1175	EAST 96TH STREET
1082 1185	8, 9, 16, 60, 70,
1095 1192	108, 128-136
1100 1199	
1111 1220	
1112 1235	

As of March 27

After a harsh winter, **Storefront Maintenance** has been busy power washing, painting, and improving street furniture. They also helped remove inflammatory graffiti on 97th Street and Fifth Avenue. The before-and-after images below show the extraordinary difference the company has made in our neighborhood.



We encourage you to call the Carnegie Hill Neighbors Safety Patrol at 917.565.0027 for urgent matters, or email info@chneighbors.org for general neighborhood concerns..



STREETSCAPE

by **Christin Brecher & Caroline King**

The Streetscape team has been busy after a fall sidewalk tree assessment. We're happy to share that several tree beds have been expanded, and new tree guards have been installed to protect long-term health at a dozen locations. Projects focused on landmark buildings (51 East 93rd Street and the House of the Redeemer at 7 East 95th Street), access points (96th Street subway station), and longtime businesses on Madison Avenue (The Corner Bookstore and S. Feldman Housewares at 93rd Street). We also planted a small Maackia tree → at 93rd Street and Madison Avenue—only two inches in diameter, planted in December to fit a modest tree bed—that will bloom this spring.



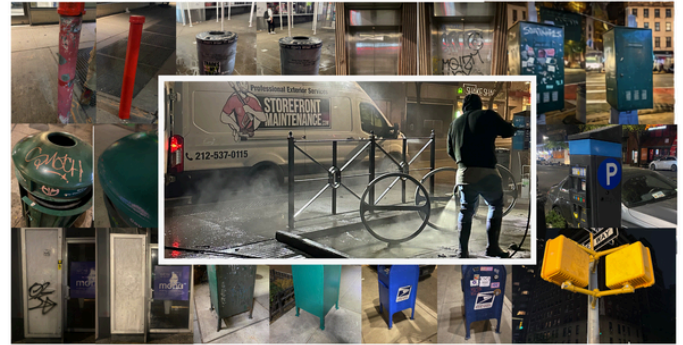
Thank you to **Julia Peck**, one of our most dedicated volunteers, for her tireless efforts; to **Urban Arborists** for their work on tree beds; and to **City Tree Guards** for creating recycled, modular tree guards that are both attractive and durable for urban conditions. If your building is planning tree work, we are happy to help with permits and trusted providers. Please contact us at info@chneighbors.org

THE 86TH STREET CORRIDOR

Imagine East 86th Street with beautiful trees, clean streets, and lively retailers—a vibrant, green corridor from Central Park to Carl Schurz Park. **The Yorkville Alliance BID** formation aims to make that vision a reality. BIDs enhance sanitation, security, streetscape improvements, beautification, and promote local businesses through marketing and events. We are currently in the outreach phase and need votes from residents, workers, and property owners in the area. Help us spread the word to your favorite shops and retailers! Learn more and vote at www.bid86.org.



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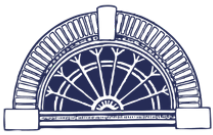
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P.S. 198 CHESS CLINCHES NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

This past December, the P.S. 198 Bulldogs Chess team traveled across the country to Spokane, Washington, where they defied the odds over three grueling days to clinch the Third Grade United States National Chess Championship. Led by Impact Coaching Network's Logan Brain, the Bulldogs battled it out amongst the country's most elite, longest-running chess programs in a stunning come-from-behind victory. "Four years ago, we started a program with the hope that one day it could compete on the national stage. Last year, it was a major step forward for us when we got tenth place in an open section. Now we just won first place against the entire country. The scholastic chess world knows who we are now," summarized an elated Coach Logan. Congratulations to the Bulldogs!



Top from left: Coach Logan. Coach Danny
Bottom from left: Sebastian, Evan, Lucas & Max



DIG INTO FUN

URBAN DUNES is a novel indoor play space designed for children under nine. Created by local parents, the bright and clean environment features three distinct, high-quality sand zones: the Construction Zone for truck enthusiasts, Dino Land for dinosaur fans, and the Golden Beach for naturalistic play. It offers a curated, creative escape where kids can dig and build to their hearts' content in carefully maintained indoor sand play areas. 122 East 91st Street between Lexington and Park avenues, 646.455.0633, Open every day 9 a.m.–6 p.m.

CARNEGIE HILL STUDENT LEADS GLOBAL MISSION



TINY FIGHTERS AFRICA, a nonprofit founded by 16-year-old Eden Jarrett, a Carnegie Hill resident and student at Nightingale-Bamford, is bridging the gap in neonatal care between New York and Sub-Saharan Africa. The organization's mission is deeply personal: Eden was born at just 29.5 weeks, weighing less than two pounds. Recognizing how her own survival was due to the high-quality medical care she received, she launched Tiny Fighters Africa to support vulnerable infants who lack access to the same life-saving resources.

"Complications from premature birth are now the number one cause of death for children under the age of five in Sub-Saharan Africa. By collecting and distributing essential neonatal supplies, our nonprofit ensures that 'tiny fighters' in underserved regions have a fighting chance at survival." Eden and her team are currently organizing their second major shipment of medical supplies to clinics in need. As she continues to grow the organization, Eden remains a powerful example of how local youth can drive international change. To learn more or offer support, visit tinyfightersafrica.com or [@tinyfightersafrica](https://www.instagram.com/tinyfightersafrica)

The pristine, newly renovated **92Y CERAMICS STUDIO** offers workshops for all ages. As part of their children's programming, beloved instructor Carol Lewis will host a joyful morning of creativity on Mother's Day, May 10. Create a one-of-a-kind family portrait in clay—featuring all your favorite details, from pets to signature accessories. Work will be fired, finished, and ready for pickup within a few weeks. For details, visit 92ny.org.



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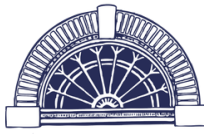
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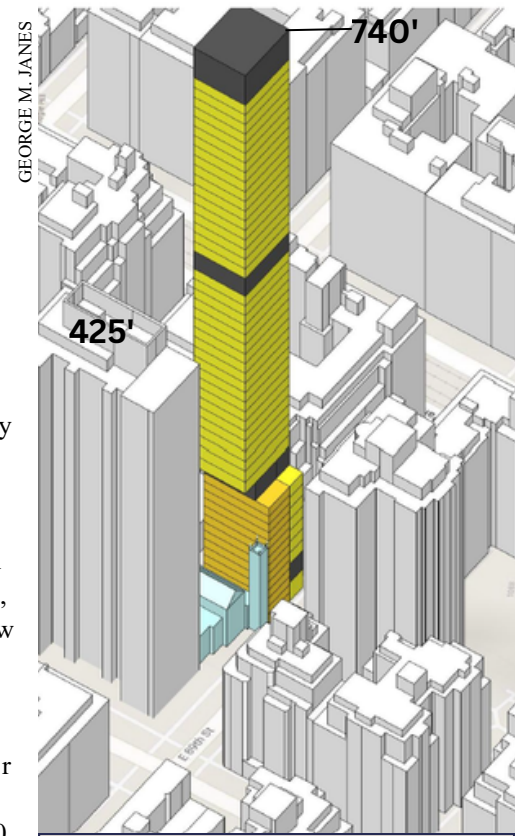
A FAITH-BASED AFFORDABLE HOUSING BILL THREATENS CARNEGIE HILL

Among the many attempts by the state and city to address the affordable housing crisis, one is a state bill, the Faith-Based Affordable Housing Act, introduced two years ago, but not yet approved. If passed, it would allow houses of worship to expand zoning rights, enabling massive development on their sites. A key element of the bill is that the faith-based site would be allowed to adopt the zoning provisions of any zoning district within an 800-foot radius of its property, thus permitting a low-scale mid-block house of worship to adopt nearby avenue zoning.

We asked what this law would mean for the Church of St. Thomas More. Located at 65 East 89th Street between Madison and Park avenues, the church, built in 1870, is neither a landmark nor in a historic district. Hence, if passed, the law would allow the church to develop its site under the new zoning as-of-right—no discretionary approvals would be needed. The only condition is that the project provide the required number of affordable housing units.

We asked our zoning consultant, George Janes, to analyze how a residential tower could be built in place of the St. Thomas More rectory while leaving the church building intact (see diagram). The result: the tower height could reach a total of 740 feet and 41 stories, with an affordable housing component of 10 stories positioned between the church and the tower. The tower would be the tallest building in Carnegie Hill. Note also that the church itself could be demolished and redeveloped, as there is no requirement for the institution to continue using the land.

Adopting this bill would break a fundamental principle of the Zoning Law, in effect since its inception in 1916, that assigns low-scale zoning to mid-block streets and high-density zoning to avenues. This bill countermands that principle. While the St. Thomas More case is only one example, we expect the bill to be widely applied. But without changing this key provision, such as excluding Manhattan, with its street grid that places high- and low-density zoning districts side by side—CHN cannot support this bill.



The church (blue) faces east 89th Street. To its west (left) is 45 East 89th Street, facing Madison Avenue. Affordable housing units are shown in dark yellow.



The front of 1228 Madison Avenue: the south window line left is set back 10 feet.

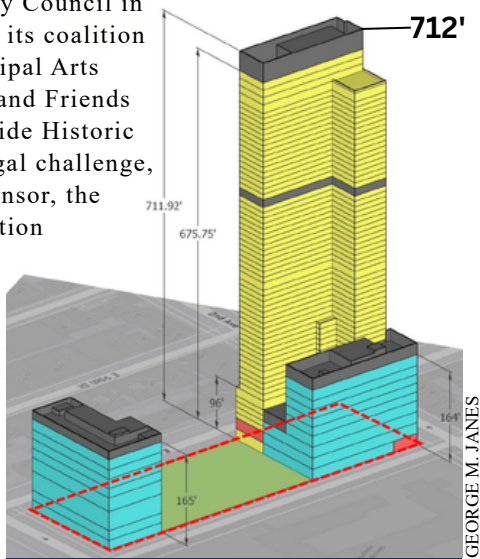
A TRIBUTE TO ARCHITECT ROBERT A.M. STERN

We take this opportunity to celebrate the work of architect and educator Robert A. M. Stern, who died last November. With his design of the luxury apartment building, 15 Central Park West, which opened in 2008 when he was almost 70, he became, for the first time in his life, a world celebrity by ushering in a new architectural style he referred to as “traditional modern.” His career and contributions are well documented in the *New York Times* obituary by Robert D. McFadden, who cites praise from the highly regarded architectural critic Paul Goldberger in an op-ed for the same publication.

Here we focus on Mr. Stern’s unusual contribution to Carnegie Hill with the design of 1228 Madison Avenue, a mid-block building between 88th and 89th streets (not in a historic district). We note an aspect of his design of what we at CHN have come to call “architectural deference.” Namely, he departed from strict symmetry by imposing a 10-foot vertical setback from the avenue at the south end of the building to benefit the windows surrounding the north corner of the neighboring Art Deco apartment building by allowing more light and greater views. Seldom seen elsewhere, CHN in 2015 called for a similar setback in the design for a new apartment building abutting the south end of Park Avenue Christian Church, located on Park Avenue at 85th Street. The Landmarks Preservation Commission agreed.

MOVEMENT ON THE MARX BROTHERS PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT

This large development (shown below)—including a 712-foot-tall residential tower, a modernized vocational school, two high schools, and an open space—encompasses the entire large block from Second to First Avenue between 96th and 97th Street. It was approved by the City Council in 2017. But CHN and its coalition partners (the Municipal Arts Society, CIVITAS, and Friends of the Upper East Side Historic Districts) filed a legal challenge, arguing that the sponsor, the Education Construction Fund (ECF), usurped parkland to acquire the necessary floor area. The judge upheld the project but also ruled that the contested playground was indeed parkland under state control, and hence the conditions of the Council’s approval (to qualify for the



The Marx Brothers project, approved by the City Council in 2017. The high schools (left, in blue) are along First Avenue, the vocational school, originally along First Avenue, was moved to Second Avenue (right, in blue), the residential tower 712 feet in total height is along 96th Street. The space for the playground (green), will no longer be certified as parkland.

needed state permission to “de-park” the playground) had to be met—one being that alternate parkland of similar size had to be secured before construction could begin. Since then, the developer, AvalonBay, has dropped out. In March, Community Board 11’s Land Use Committee announced that an alternate site (city property near 125th Street and First Avenue) had been made available for the two high schools. This is a promising development with the potential of leading to a more acceptable project.

Memorial Sloan Kettering Is Required to Lower the Height of Its City Approved New Hospital

CHN had been approached by a group of neighbors to help in their opposition to this last component of a multi-block development, a 600-foot tall hospital that required a ULURP approval. CHN argued for a lower tower at 400 feet, more consistent with the rest of the development. The city approved the requested proposal, but a final state approval, reportedly with City Councilmember Julie Menin’s beneficial involvement, required a smaller expansion with a height reduction of about 125 feet to about 475 feet (these numbers are approximate), more in line with CHN’s recommendation.

LENOX HILL/NORTHWELL HOSPITAL EXPANSION IS CHALLENGED

Late in 2025, the City Council approved a major expansion of the hospital, raising its height to approximately 450 feet on Lexington Avenue between 76th and 77th streets. This height far exceeds the 175-foot limit for this part of Lexington Avenue. A neighborhood group, the Committee to Protect Our Lenox Hill Neighborhood, has recently filed a lawsuit challenging the project's height and bulk.

THE FAST TRACK AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM IS EXPECTED TO INCLUDE THE UES

In order to expedite the creation of more affordable housing, the City Planning Commission (CPC) has been tasked by the recent City Charter Review Commission to identify the 10 Community Districts (out of a total of 51) that have been the worst performers over the last five years in creating affordable housing. The purpose is to focus added incentives to create more affordable housing. The UES has been a net loser of affordable housing because new developments often demolish buildings with affordable units to build luxury apartments. The CPC held a hearing on April 1 to allow public input. The public, including CHN, highlighted the complexity of the criteria, inconsistencies in city data, and the lack of recognition that market forces can cause disparities among districts. The 10 districts selected will be announced this fall.

A RECENT STUDY RANKED EACH MAYOR’S RECORD FOR DESIGNATING NEW LANDMARK PROPERTIES

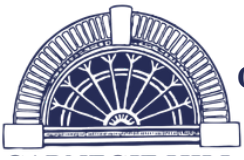
The study by Village Preservation evaluated each city mayor's performance in designating new landmark properties since the landmark law was enacted in 1965. The scoring was based on the number of individual landmarks created and the number of buildings included in newly designated historic districts. While Mayor Eric Adams had the worst record, Mayors David Dinkins and Michael Bloomberg were the most productive.

LPC DECISION ON REAR EXPANSION OF 133 EAST 95TH STREET CUTBACK AN AMBITIOUS PROPOSAL

The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) required a much toned-down rear yard expansion, limited to two stories from the five stories sought. But the depth at the first floor had to match the 11-foot depth of its neighbor at 131 (approved by the LPC at the Commission level in 2011). More importantly, unlike 131, whose second floor was limited to half (at 5½ feet), it was allowed a full-depth second floor. We note that 133 was already benefiting from a rear rooftop addition (from the 1930s) with no setback, while 131 was required by the LPC to cut back its rear rooftop addition by 6 feet. Also, 133 already benefits from a 5-foot front extension (also from the 1930s), unique to the block. In future rear addition proposals for the block, CHN will stress that 131 should serve as the precedent.



The proposed five-floor rear addition was cut back by the LPC to two floors.



CONSCIENTIOUS CONVERSATION

with

Carnegie Hill's David Harris

David Harris has dedicated over 50 years to advocating for the Jewish community, including a distinguished 32-year tenure as the CEO of the American Jewish Committee. Frances Chedid interviewed David about his new book, *Antisemitism: What Everyone Needs to Know*, and engaged him in a broader discussion about our shared civic duty to foster and practice empathy and understanding. We are grateful for his time.

You are known for your diplomatic and intellectual approach to conflict resolution and promoting peace. What motivated you to write this book? The book was the brainchild of Oxford University Press. They called me in 2023 and invited me to write it. They stressed it was intended for a wide audience, not a narrow scholarly group. That's the book I set out to write, hoping it will land in high school and college classrooms, book clubs, church groups, and the like.

What was the most challenging part of writing the book? Living with such a dispiriting topic 24/7 and realizing, beyond what I already knew, the durability, resilience, adaptability, ingenuity, and reach of what some experts say is the world's oldest social pathology. That antisemitism, about which I wrote, has returned with a vengeance 80 years after the Holocaust, when one-third of the entire Jewish population was murdered in killing fields, ghettos, and gas chambers, is extraordinarily hard to process.

Can you share a bit about your family's personal history with antisemitism? My childhood was shaped by the lived experiences of my mother, Nelly, a target first of Communist antisemitism in her native Russia, then of Nazi and French Vichy antisemitism in her adopted France. It was equally shaped by the lived experiences of my father, Eric, expelled from the University of Vienna in 1938 for the simple "crime" of being a Jew, and who miraculously survived seven years of horror before arriving in America after the war's end.

What lessons about antisemitism have been imparted to you from their experiences? First, that human beings, even products of an "advanced" cultural and educational system such as Germany and Austria, are capable of bestial crimes. Second, never to suffer from a failure of imagination or a sense of complacency about what can happen. Third, to recognize that liberal democracy is precious—and fragile—and must be defended in every generation. And fourth, to help others understand that antisemitism might begin with Jews, but make no mistake, it ends by targeting other vulnerable communities as well and promoting authoritarianism and tyranny.



"When we all stand together, we send a clear message to those who would divide us: You won't succeed if we are one."

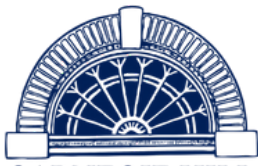
How do you think technology has contributed to the rise of antisemitism? It's had a huge impact. Antisemitism now has extraordinary reach, something denied them just a few years ago. And too many users of these platforms—potentially billions of people—are ill-equipped to filter truth from fiction, insight from incitement, and information from indoctrination. The challenge is immense. No exaggeration.

What is your hope for your grandchildren's generation? Most of us live in diverse, pluralistic societies. Either we embrace them, or we fracture, pitting one group against another, and witness extremists seeking to gain the upper hand. I want our eight beautiful grandchildren to grow up as proud Jews. I also want them to respect and learn about other communities and cultures. We can all be immensely enriched by exploring and engaging beyond our respective borders.

As neighbors, what can we do to promote peace and tolerance at the individual level? Practice empathy. Not faux empathy. Real empathy. When neighbors feel vulnerable because of a rise in bigotry, as Jews do today, a supportive word can go a long way. Even more, when we all stand together, we send a clear message to those who would divide us: You won't succeed if we are one.

What is your favorite aspect of life in Carnegie Hill? As a lifelong New Yorker, I know a thing or two about this city. Carnegie Hill is simply the best neighborhood for us in this magical, if at times challenging, metropolis. It has it all—stunning architecture, the urban oasis known as Central Park, great culture, eclectic shopping, tree-lined streets, and a sense of calm amidst the chaos.

What is your hope for the future of Carnegie Hill? That its unique charm, serenity, scale—vibe, if you will—are fiercely protected for generations to come. Too many characterless, soulless neighborhoods elsewhere remind us why.

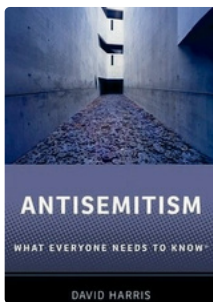
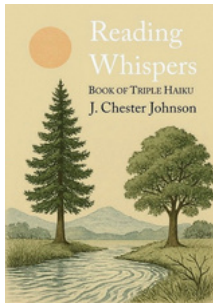
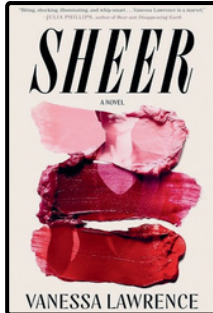
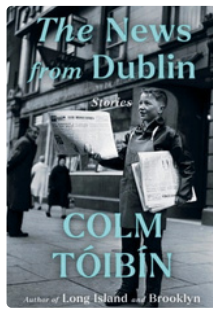


LOCAL AUTHORS
by Lenny Golay

Romance, Poetry & Social Dynamics

Vanessa Lawrence’s *Sheer* tells the story of Maxine Thomas, the founder and creative director of the cult makeup company Reveal, who has been suspended by her own board for a scandalous transgression. Housebound in her New York City apartment, where she awaits the verdict on her future, Max recounts her version of the events that have brought her to this moment. Max has promoted a sheer, dewy look—cosmetics through a female gaze—all while battling sexist investors, the whiplash of cultural change, and the mounting pressure to keep her sexuality a secret. But when Max’s story catches up to her present, she must contend with the cost of true transparency. Who has she become in her relentless pursuit of success? And what will happen if she loses it all?

Antisemitism: What Everyone Needs to Know by David Harris explores how, in the 21st century, antisemitism is once again resurgent. In recent years, the FBI reported that well over half of all religiously motivated hate crimes in the United States targeted Jews, even though Jews comprise just over two percent of the population. It is striking how little understood antisemitism, including the term itself, still is. This extends quite widely to political leaders, educational authorities, law enforcement, the judiciary, civic groups, and media outlets. Polls have also shown how knowledge of the Holocaust, which was widely considered to be a firewall against the resurgence of antisemitism, is declining, notwithstanding ongoing attention to the topic in education, museums and memorials, and culture.



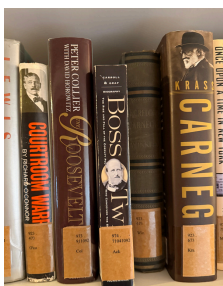
Colm Tóibín, a master of short fiction as well as the novel, summons an extraordinary intensity of emotion in a brief tale. *The News from Dublin: Stories* is a brilliant collection of short stories, many never before published, set across Ireland, Spain, and America, about the complexities of family, longing, loss, and love. The stories transport readers across continents and eras. They are rich with the complexities of family dynamics, the haunting pull of the past, and the quiet revelations that define our lives. His characters are rendered with illuminating, unforgettable empathy and insight.

In Jeanette Settembre’s *Little Red Flags*, Mia De Luce is a successful food writer who has built her dream life in Manhattan while working at her family’s restaurant. One weekend in the Hamptons, she is seduced by a charismatic stranger named Ben Cohen. Caught up in the whirlwind romance, Mia ignores the little red flags she and others see—like Ben’s adrenaline-seeking tendencies and reckless attitude. But a single event shatters their all-consuming chemistry, forcing Mia to live a double life: one as a food writer, savoring caviar and champagne at the world’s best restaurants, and one in secret, filled with shame and deception.

In *Reading Whispers: Book of Triple Haiku*, J. Chester Johnson creates an innovative structure: the “triple haiku,” a form that places three haiku in conversation beneath a unifying title. The Japanese form offers a great spatial experience by presenting images that go beyond a narrative frame. Johnson goes further by juxtaposing three haiku and adding a title, allowing the images to reverberate even more. The result is a kind of lyric echo chamber, images suspended and extended, resonating across the white space of the page.

AN INVITATION TO READ

In 2021, author, educator, historian, and preservation activist Joyce Mendelsohn donated a collection of books about New York City to Carnegie Hill Neighbors for public access. Ms. Mendelsohn hopes anyone interested in New York’s history and culture will use her collection for “research and enjoyment,” and that the public will “explore the complexities of neighborhoods and buildings through continuity and change.” While books are not available to take home, we encourage neighbors to come and browse the library. Please make an appointment by calling the office at 212-996-5520.






FAMILIAR FACES FUN FACTS

by Frances Chedid
& Punch Hutton



During the controversial 1951 trial of Ethel and Julius Rosenberg, the presiding judge, Irving Kaufman, lived at 1185 Park. To ensure his safety, the building asked the NYPD to provide its doormen with police uniforms and caps, giving the impression that Kaufman had round-the-clock security. Today, the uniforms worn by the distinguished doormen (Robert Remi, pictured above) standing at the grand arched entrance of the stately quadrangle building, designed by architects Schwartz & Gross in 1929, have been updated, but they still convey a commanding security presence.



Jenny Frisch, a co-chair of last year's CHN Spooktakular, says the most memorable part of this beloved  event was, "the pure excitement on

everyone's faces—not just the kids but the adults, too. That joy and appreciation were incredibly special to witness. Volunteering with Carnegie Hill Neighbors, I've learned how deeply people care about their neighbors and the preservation of this community."



There are more than 19 schools in our neighborhood; 5 are in landmark buildings.


5



Carnegie Hill Neighbors plants more than **20,000** tulip bulbs along Park Avenue from 86th to 96th streets each fall, which blossom in the spring.

The most popular item at Island restaurant is the **Island Burger**.
The most requested cocktail? A **Kettle One martini**.

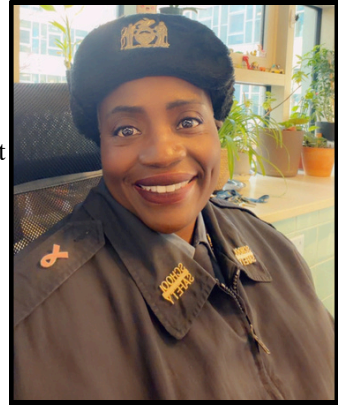


The best-selling items at Feldman's are:
-Miele vacuum cleaners
-Le Creuset cookware
-Party supplies
-Greeting cards
-**Light bulbs** 



Seven of the 12 row houses on the south side of East 95th Street, between Park and Lexington avenues, designed by architect C. Abbott French & Co., in 1887–1888, have Devils, Monsters, or Gods built into their facades.

Pat Castillo, the beloved School Safety officer at P.S.198, has been making a difference in the community for decades. She says, "The most rewarding part of my career has been knowing that I've made a difference in students' lives. Over the years, I've learned that the job is about more than keeping a building safe—it's about being a supportive presence for young people who may need encouragement or someone to listen to. Seeing students grow, graduate, and even return years later to say, 'Thank you,' has been incredibly meaningful. Those moments remind me that kindness, consistency, and service truly matter."



There are 179 residential townhouses in Carnegie Hill.

If architect Frank Lloyd Wright had his way, the **Guggenheim Museum** would have been painted red, "the color of creation," he explained. When Solomon R. Guggenheim, the museum's patron, rejected the idea, Wright chose a "buff" hue, meant to symbolize "organic architecture" and to create visual harmony with the interiors.





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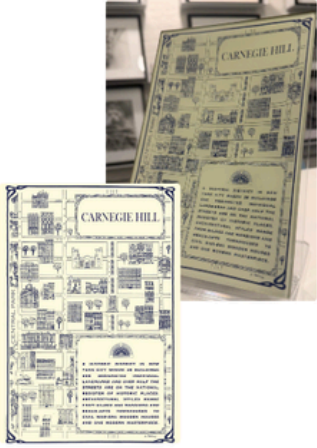
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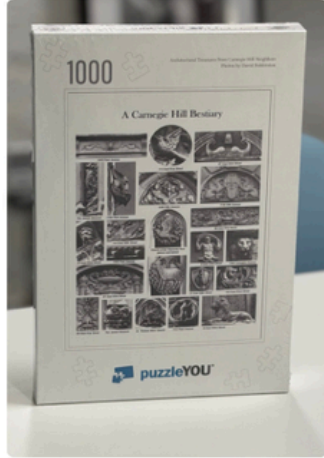
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LOCAL SPOTS & UNIQUE SHOPS

A whimsical new gift shop curated by owner YiLing Chen-Josephson draws on her literary background and NYC upbringing to recreate the nostalgic spirit of a neighborhood toy store. From the selection of children's books and toys to curiosities, personalized recommendations, and gift wrap, **BOROUGH** is both playful and thoughtful. 1384 Lexington Avenue between 91st and 92nd streets.



Chef David Zaquine brings modern flair to French technique at his Parisian-style pastry shop, **SWEET REHAB**. Sweet tooth delight in the gooey yet crispy chocolate chip cookies, the imaginatively presented “cakes in a jar,” and the Le Miel, a honey cake with white chocolate, orange blossom cream, and fresh honeycomb. 167 E 87th Street, between Lexington and Third avenues. Open 8 a.m., closed Monday.



After a very long wait, **PAOLA'S RESTAURANT** has reopened in a new space at 1302 Madison between 92nd and 93rd streets. Paola's son, Stefano Marracino, who owns the restaurant with his brother Daniel, has assumed his late mother's role, warmly welcoming diners. It continues as a lively destination for terrific Italian cuisine. Paola's is open for dinner nightly 5–10 p.m., lunch Monday–Friday 12–3 p.m., brunch Saturday–Sunday 11 a.m.–3 p.m, 212-794-1890, Paolasrestaurant.com. The brothers also own **PAOLA'S CAFE**, a smaller, quieter venue at 1361 Lexington Avenue between 90th and 91st streets. Open for dinner nightly, 5–10 p.m., 212-982-5660, Paolascafe.com.

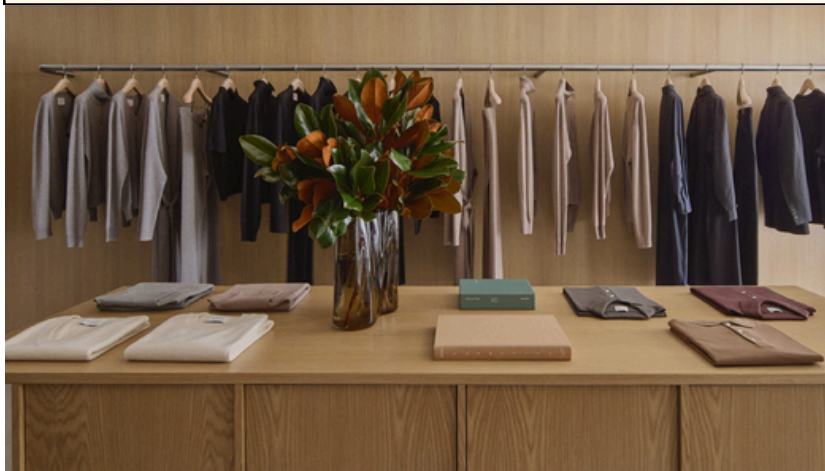


Linda Shkrelja, who, with her husband Viktor, has co-owned **LEX RESTAURANT** at 1370 Lexington Avenue for 20 years, will open **LINDA'S AT MADISON** this spring. The new restaurant will open in the charming spot at 44 East 92nd Street, formerly home to Table d'Hôte for decades.

Health-focused coffee shop **DAILY SPROUTS** offers homemade pastries and a variety of sprouted-grain breads, including banana bread and zucchini torta. Serving breakfast and lunch owner Svetlana Martynova uses organic ingredients in her healthy, homemade treats. 163 East 92nd Street between Lexington and Third avenues, open weekdays 8 a.m.–3 p.m., weekends 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

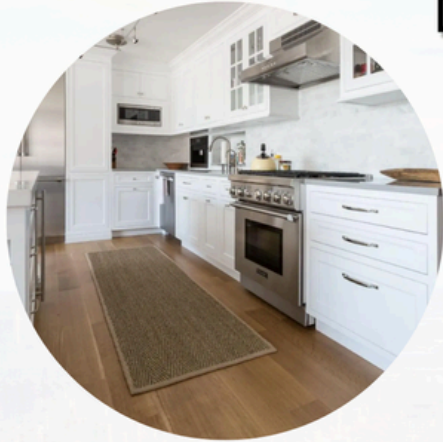


Family-owned boutique **HÅNDVAERK** constructs high-end, timeless wardrobe staples. Drawing on their textile expertise, the founders source premium organic fibers—including Peruvian Pima cotton, Italian Merino wool, and British twills—to create durable, minimalist essentials for men and women. The shop also offers books, lighting, and furniture from independent European designers. 1225 Madison Avenue between 88th and 89th streets. handvaerk.com



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CARNEGIE CANINES
by Caroline King



MURPHY, a border collie mix, lives right above the Carnegie Hill Neighbors office, in a lovely turn-of-the-century Nevill & Bagge cooperative built in 1900. He enjoys playing fetch in his particularly large backyard, designed by Frederick Law Olmsted and Calvert Vaux. If you are looking for a treat, Murphy recommends Feldman's.



After a storied racing career in Kansas, **ZANE** met his forever family in New Haven through We Adopt Greyhounds. His travels took him to St. Louis and San Antonio before settling on the couch at his Rosario Candela cooperative, where he loves to curl up with Mom and new baby, Eva. Zane enjoys easy strolls around the Bridle Path and schmoozing with his building pals. Mornings find him at Grabstein's, enjoying a coffee with Dad. Please wish Zane a happy birthday—if you see him in April, he will turn 10.

FINN, a Bernedoodle born in West Virginia, is settling in well to life in Carnegie Hill. Thankfully, his red-brick neo-Italian Renaissance style prewar co-op, designed by Nathan Korn, permits pets. He loves playing with other puppies in Central Park, especially when it's snowing. He also enjoys sniffing the aisles of Feldman's and The Corner Bookstore and collecting treats at La Bomboneira.



We love our furry legged friends. If you'd like to share news about your pup, please email info@chneighbors.org



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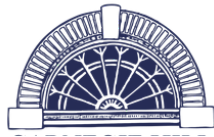
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TREE CARE
by Julia Bradford

THE 91ST STREET TREES PROJECT

Carnegie Hill can well be described as quiet, relaxed, low-rise, and shady. There are busy intersections at 86th and 96th streets, but most of our streets are tranquil and treelined, thanks to efforts by our neighbors and CHN to plant as many trees as possible.

Our neighborhood is also home to many schools, and most have planted trees at their entrances. Many of these schools have added auxiliary buildings blocks away from their main campuses to provide students with more classrooms and improved athletic facilities. Convent of the Sacred Heart has been housed in the James Burden and Otto Khan mansions for years, but its Athletics and Wellness Center, near First Avenue, is a more recent addition.

This past fall, two Sacred Heart parents conceived of a program to add vitality and greenery to the seven-block corridor traversed by students and faculty en route from classrooms to the gym. The 91st Street Trees Project welcomes school parents and neighbors to plant street trees, expand the size of existing tree beds, and install metal tree guards to protect the trees from soil compaction, pet waste, and other hazards. This enhanced tree canopy is a generous gift to the neighborhood and exemplifies the school's values of service and community.



The project is more than just adding greenery to 91st Street; it aligns with the school's focus on environmental stewardship. Partnering with Trees New York, a nonprofit with 50 years of experience caring for New York City's street trees, Sacred Heart has developed a hands-on curriculum that enables students to participate in tree care and learn the importance of nurturing the environment. This program has introduced students to urban forestry, street tree maintenance, bulb planting in the beds outside their buildings, and winter mulching using evergreen clippings left over from their annual Christmas tree sale.

Shira Boss, author of two acclaimed picture books, visited the lower school and shared her stories that promote love for city trees and their role in urban communities. Katie Gerding, Lower School Director of Student Life, has incorporated the tree stewardship initiative into the third-grade service-learning curriculum and is excited about the partnership. "The students have been thrilled to help with the various stewardship projects. The joy on their faces as they work together to till soil, plant bulbs, and later see flowers bloom in spring has been a true blessing. It's a win for them, the school community, and the neighborhood at large." Trees serve as living memorials to those who dedicated effort to plant and care for them. Imagine a Sacred Heart student returning 20 years from now, walking along 91st Street's tree canopy, knowing many mature trees were planted and cared for during her time at the school. And knowing that neighbors and nearby schools were inspired to improve the tree coverage around their own buildings. Greening is vital for maintaining and expanding our urban forest and just might be contagious.

EXCITING NEWS!

Trees New York's Citizen Pruner Tree Care Course trains volunteers in tree care, biology, identification, and pruning. The course includes four 2-hour sessions starting on Wednesday, October 7, from 6–8 p.m., at the CHN office. A pruning outing on Saturday, October 24, provides hands-on experience. Thank you to Trees New York for offering this course to our community. We encourage you to join us. Please contact CHN to reserve a spot or stay tuned for more information via email this fall.

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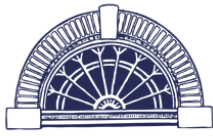


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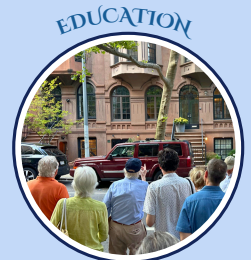
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