The Pershing Square West Plaza is completed, and the plaza is now open. It has already served as the venue for several events, and people spend time sitting at the tables in nice weather. This project has provided an attractive and enjoyable access to Grand Central Terminal and much-needed public space for the neighborhood.

2019 was the first year for Council Members Carlina Rivera, Council District 2, and Keith Powers, Council District 4, to lead Participatory Budgeting for their districts. Participatory budgeting allows members of the community to get involved in decision making about how to spend a part of a public budget. It allows the community to discuss local needs and develop proposals to meet these needs.

For Participatory Budgeting 2019, New York City Council members formed committees of volunteers in their districts to work with Council staff to propose projects to improve their districts. Each Council Member had approximately $1 million for this purpose. In addition to the volunteers, the public was also invited to submit projects. City agencies then estimated the cost of each eligible proposal. The committees of volunteers made the final decisions about which proposals would be put up for a general vote by the residents of the district. Voting was held online and by paper ballot. The proposals with the most votes got funded. Below are the winning proposals for Council Districts 2, 3 and 4.

**Council District 2, Councilwoman Carlina Rivera**
- Countdown Clocks for M9, M14A and M14D bus lines: $200,000
- Science Mobile Carts at P.S. 34: $140,000
- Street Resurfacing Streets: $250,000/mile
- Gym Renovation at P.S. 188: $150,000
- Lift Installation at P.S. 40: $350,000

**Council District 3**
- Public Art and Greening at Grand Central Street: $100,000
- Security Cameras for Public Spaces: $125,000

**Council District 4**
- Bike Corral at Grand Central Street: $100,000
- Sidewalk Repair at Broadway/Garden St: $75,000

**Participatory Budgeting Results Are In For Council Districts 2, 3 and 4**

Continued on page 13
Another year begins for the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association.

On October 3, at the Annual Meeting we will kick off the Murray Hill “Better Together” campaign. Please mark your calendars. This is an important campaign to improve the quality of life in Murray Hill. The campaign and its important activities will be announced by the chairs and co-chairs of the organization and by our elected officials. We want all of our members and neighbors to be committed to make an impact in the neighborhood. The “Better Together” campaign will address issues for keeping Murray Hill clean, from taking care of pets to recycling. Join us at the Annual Meeting and get involved. Being involved does not require additional time on your part. It just requires us all to be aware of the issues and have some fun as well.

We have been interviewing candidates for trustee positions. I have been asked to address how the process works. A nominating committee is set up in the spring to review the trustees that are presently on the board and to fill open positions. We notify the public about the search. Each trustee is required to attend all trustee meetings, chair or co-chair a committee, attend events, establish a budget, and vote on important issues. Trustees also determine what issues we should focus on. In addition, they must agree to the mission statement of the association to continue to make Murray Hill a highly desirable place to live, work and visit.

Starting on January 1, 2020 the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association will celebrate its 60th anniversary—60 years of incredible service to the city and the community. We will be planning some very special events to celebrate the diamond anniversary.

We thank all of our members for caring about our wonderful neighborhood. I hope to welcome you all on October 3 to start off the new season for the association.

Also, we must not forget to thank the trustees for their dedication and hard work. We would not be the association we are without them.

I hope everyone had a wonderful and fun-filled summer. If you have the time, get involved. We need you. One person can make a difference.

But most important, we are Better Together!!!!!
This fall, or early next year, the New York City Economic Development Corporation might start to implement its comprehensive plan to upgrade the existing East River Esplanade with more amenities and a bike lane that will connect with north and south bike lanes along the waterfront.

The 35th Street pier is still overcrowded, even with the newly installed docks to accommodate additional ferry boat traffic. As many as four ferries can often be seen waiting to dock at the busy pier. The City should consider expanding the existing pier or building a new one nearby.

The owner of the View34 residential building (UDR Rivergate, LLC) has completed construction of the redesigned public plaza. However, the one-story food related commercial space with outside seating area is still under construction. The Plaza has 11 new trees, five planting areas, basketball court, an artificial turf lawn and ample seating areas. The Plaza adds about 71,000 square feet of open space to our community.

In July of this year, the 700 First Avenue Redevelopment Site Tower I developers began preliminary staging work on the

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**Welcome to Community**

**Community Church of New York, Unitarian Universalist**

[www.ccny.org](http://www.ccny.org)

Join us in our mission to grow as a caring, justice-making, diverse, anti-racist, and spiritual community.

*40 East 35th Street, NYC*

*Sunday Service at 11:00 am*

Find out about our religious education and adult programs. Enjoy our music-filled services.

---

**Murray Hill Neighborhood Association**

**Statement of Revenues and Expenditures with Cash Position**

Fiscal Year Ended February 28, 2019

(Unaudited for Management Purposes Only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cash, March 1, 2018</th>
<th>$ 55,596</th>
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<td>Revenues</td>
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<td>11,714</td>
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<table>
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<td><strong>Total Expenditures</strong></td>
<td><strong>$ 92,048</strong></td>
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</tbody>
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| Cash, February 28, 2019 | $ 94,947 |

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The new public plaza is now open at 34th Street and 1st Avenue. The small building under construction in the background will be a restaurant. This property is owned by View34 (UDR Rivergate, LLC), a rental building at 401 East 34th Street.
Tell a friend about The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association

New Membership/Renewal Form.
Make checks payable to Murray Hill Neighborhood Association

☐ $35 Individual   ☐ $50 Couple
☐ $20 Senior Citizen (age 65+) ☐ $40 Senior Couple (age 65+)
☐ $25 Young Professional (to age 40)

Business/Nonprofit:
☒ $60 Small Business (1-9 employees)
☒ $100 Medium Sized Business (10-24 employees)
☒ $250 Large Business (25+ employees)

Co-Op/Condo Board or Building Owner:
☒ $100 Small Building (less than 60 units)
☒ $150 Medium-Sized Building (60-200 units)
☒ $250 Large Building (more than 200 units)

Managing or Rental Agent:
☒ $250 Small Building (less than 60 units)
☒ $350 Medium-Sized Building (60-200 units)
☒ $500 Large Building (more than 200 units)

I want to make an additional contribution: $____

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

Name ____________________________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________
Partner Name _______________________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________
Company Name _____________________________________
Contact Person _____________________________________
E-mail ____________________________________________
Address _______________ Apt _______
City _______________________ State ____ Zip __________
Primary Phone # __________________________
Cell/Other Phone __________________________

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

Members’ Corner

Our warmest welcome to new members.

Individual/Couples
Bernetta Avery
Tohe Becker
Jessica E. Berkowitz
Kenneth A. Berkowitz
Gary Bowers
Leonard Bronfeld
Amy Chandra Browne
David James Browne
Pantantin Chanachai
Lyne Cherry
Elaine Forman Crane
Stephen G. Crane
Gavin DeNyse
Heather Dolland-Tamam
Bridget Farrington

Kristen Gieschen
Denise Hamilton
Diane A. Holland
Mark Holland
Lisa Carol Horowitz
Martin Hurwitz
Natalie Hurwitz
Paul Jeun
Zhang Xue Jing
George Karas
Jacqueline Keith
Thomas Klem
Ryan McCarthy
James J. McDonald
Al Medina
Andrew Miao

Richard Mintz
Candice Nonas
Adam Padilla
Willow Xavier Padilla
Micael Prince
Sheryl Prince
Andrea Riquier
Veraciluca Sanchez
Josie Sandler
Joel P. Schwartz PMP
Ruth Stevens
Amos Tamam
Laila Thabet
Vesna Toic
Arthur Zapesocha

Building Members
The Carlton Regency Corp.

Business/Nonprofit
Blenheim Restaurant and Smorgas Chef
Boris Fabrikant, Compass
Dr. Geri Robin, Dentistry, PC
Elevatione Spa Boutique
Fairfax & Sammons Architects Inc PC
Medi Pedi NYC Inc.
Murray Hill Pediatric Dentistry

Building Members
The Carlton Regency Corp.

MHNA T-Shirts Are Now on Sale

Wear your love for Murray Hill! Men’s and women’s t-shirts featuring the iconic I Love NY logo with a Murray Hill twist. $15. For sale on the MHNA website catalog.

The Fairway Block on 2nd Avenue Between 30th and 32nd Street

Postings on social media are reporting that the owner of the property on 2nd Avenue between 30th and 32nd Street where the Fairway supermarket, AMC Loews movie theater, Rite Aid Pharmacy and other stores are currently located would like to redevelop the site. We asked NYU Langone if they are planning to purchase the lot, and they have told us that there is currently no agreement. According to City records (ACRIS), Fairway is the current owner (Block: 00936 Lot: 0001).
The MHNA fondly Remembers Minor Bishop (1927-2019)—A Renaissance Man

Minor Lamphier Bishop, age 92, passed away during the early morning hours of June 20, 2019. Minor is best known by those of us who live in Murray Hill for his community service, having served the MHNA for decades with great dedication, from the 1960s until the end of his life, as a trustee and active member of the Preservation & Design Committee. He worked to preserve the historic designation of the Murray Hill district, and researched the history of its landmarks and buildings. He is best remembered for his walking tours, which he gave tirelessly.

Minor was a visionary about urban amenities. He drew up a proposal for a waterfront restaurant and park in Murray Hill on the site of the old Con Edison plant at 35th Street and 1st Avenue. Twenty years later his vision has become a reality.

Minor Bishop began “building houses” when he was five years old. Growing up in Teaneck, NJ, he made cardboard models of nearby houses. His grandfather, who was an architect as well as a church organist, inspected one of Minor’s creations. “You need to move the plumbing,” he said. “But otherwise it’s pretty good.” As a child, Minor developed plans for a car company called Empire Motors. He designed and refined the model prototypes, developed a business plan and drew minutely detailed advertising brochures. He pursued this passion into his early 20s. But he set those ambitions aside when he joined the military during WWII.

Upon returning home, he worked his way through the Yale School of Architecture, earning his degree in 1953. One of his treasured memories was designing a church with his grandfather, which was built in Northampton, Massachusetts and still stands. He went on to work at Delano and Aldrich, an elite architectural firm, and following the 1960 death of William Delano, Minor embarked on a 30-year career working with Delano’s nephew, Alexander McIlvaine, in a brownstone on 36th Street. He lived and

Continued on page 20

Changes to the Discount Program

New

Elevatone Spa Boutique, 45 East 45th Street (at the Roosevelt Hotel), 917-633-4805, 15% discount for any services, cannot be combined with other offers.

JoAnn Brown, Art and Antique Consultant, telephone 646-559-0555 for an appointment. 20% discount for a one-hour home or telephone consultation, (one-time offer for first-time customers only).

Super Computer Doctor, 330 East 38th Street drop off, or at your location, 212-599-2048 (call or text to make an appointment), 15% discount off first hour with cash only (first-time customers only).

Zumba Classes led by Talin Avakian on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm at the Armenian Evangelical Church, 152 East 34th Street (between Lexington & 3rd Avenue), First class free/$10 per class, group rates available, contact Talin at travakian67@gmail.com.

Changed

D’Agostino at 35th Street, 528 Third Avenue, 646-677-3153, 10% discount with $30 purchase. Dag reward card needed. Not to be combined with the senior discount.

Fred Astaire Dance Studio, 200 East 37th Street (at 3rd Avenue), 2nd Fl., 212-697-6535, 10% discount to new students only. (Note new address.)

Hill and Bay, 581 Second Avenue, 212-245-5554, 10% off delivery subtotal (does not apply to tax and tip) when ordering online at hillandbay.com, use promo code MHNA. 10% discount when dining in, excludes beverages and taxes.

Shelburne Hotel, 303 Lexington Avenue (37th Street), for online reservations visit www.affinia.com/shelburne select Rate Preference “Best Available” and use Promo Code NEIGH for up to 20% off. Please show proof of membership when checking in.

Removed

Madison Bistro, 238 Madison Avenue
Nana Sushi and Lounge, 511 Third Avenue
Trattoria Belvedere, 165 Lexington Avenue
All are no longer in business at these locations.
Construction Updates

Park Avenue Tunnel Restoration

The Park Avenue Tunnel is closed while work is being done on the tunnel roof restoration. Lattice girders are being installed across the entire length of the tunnel. The girders provide a support system for the tunnel roof. The girders are then covered with shotcrete, a concrete mixture that is sprayed over steel reinforcements. NYC Department of Transportation will keep the tunnel closed to expedite this phase of the work, which is expected to be completed by the end of August. After the roof restoration is completed, the work to repair the walls at the north approach will begin, as well as the replacement and installation of the new carbon monoxide monitoring system and new lighting.

Infrastructure Replacement Project on 2nd Avenue and surrounding areas

The New York City Department of Design and Construction began the Infrastructure Upgrades along 2nd Avenue and Surrounding Areas Project (MED607) in the summer of 2018, with an anticipated completion date of fall 2021. Approximately 30-40% of the 12 inch distribution water mains, 40% of the gas mains, and 50% of catch basins and chute connections are installed and completed at various locations. During the next months, excavation and installation of the

20 inch water mains will continue. Sometime during the early fall of 2019, excavation for the installation of trunk water mains will begin north of East 34th Street, along the west side of 2nd Avenue. Utility work will also be ongoing at various locations including, but not limited to, gas main upgrades or installation, steam and electric work.

East Side Access 37th Street Site and Grand Central

The East Side Access is a project to provide Long Island Rail Road riders a faster, direct access to the east side of Manhattan, easing overcrowding in and around Penn Station. The ESA is expected to be open by 2022. Most of the work around Grand Central is deep underground. Large mechanical equipment for heating, air conditioning and ventilating the future concourse and terminal have been set in place, 140 feet below the streets of Manhattan. A multitude of rooms to support terminal operations and for retail tenant spaces are under construction. Work is ongoing for the four high-rise escalator wellways which will contain 17 escalators.

Surface level operations in Murray Hill are at Grand Central Terminal and the concrete drop-off site at 37th Street and Park Avenue. In the Biltmore Room on the upper level of Grand Central Terminal, the contractor is working on floor openings for two future passenger escalators, which will connect directly to the new LIRR concourse below. ESA will maintain a worksite in the Biltmore Room until passenger service begins. Concrete deliveries will ramp up at sites

Several blocks on East 37th Street have been repaved, fixing a surface which has been very poor for several years at the crosswalks and along the roadways. This street gets heavy traffic exiting from the Queens Midtown Tunnel at peak hours. Photo is of the block between 3rd & 2nd Avenue looking east. Park Avenue has also been repaved.
throughout Manhattan. The concrete drop site at 37th Street that was demobilized in late 2016 will become active again to support construction in the tunnels.

As reported in the *New York Post* in April, Governor Cuomo ordered an independent review of the East Side Access project.

Queens Midtown Tunnel

As previously reported, the restoration of the QMT following damage caused by Hurricane Sandy is substantially complete. However there is occasionally work at that site. Our community liaison for the QMT tells us that nighttime tube closures are needed sporadically for special maintenance, testing the flood gates, etc. They will continue to have nighttime single-lane closures in one or both tubes for tunnel-washing, routine maintenance and repairs, as needed. During daytime hours, both tubes will remain open with full capacity, unless there’s an inspection or emergency repair.

Work began in July to rehabilitate sidewalks, walls and masonry and clear weedy growth on the QMT Tunnel Entrance and Exit Streets. The work starts on Tunnel Entrance Street, between East 40th and East 39th Streets and will progress south, then move to the exit streets. The work will require a single south-bound lane closure for the block being worked on, while the other lane remains open to traffic. The work will be from 7am to 3pm.

The shared street on 43rd Street is not what we were expecting. 43rd Street between 3rd and Lexington Avenue often looks like a loading zone, with several delivery trucks all unloading at the same time. The street furniture of boulders and planters work well as a barrier but are not enough to create an inviting place to linger. NYC Council Member Keith Powers’ office told us that they have received several complaints about this shared street recently. He has been told that this is not the final configuration, and they are planning a meeting to address these issues. This shared street is one of the first public amenities resulting from the Midtown East rezoning. Photo taken on June 21, 2019.
Thanks to our Neighbors for a Great Street Festival
By Ashley Petrylak, Chair, Street Festival Committee

On Saturday, June 1 The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association held their 46th Annual Street Festival along Park Avenue between 34th and 40th Streets. The theme of the Festival this year was *Come Meet Your Neighbor* and our neighbors came out in droves! The weather was picture perfect for strolling along Park Avenue while watching and listening to this year’s diverse entertainers. Ori Manea, a Polynesian dance troupe in which one of our trustees, May Fan, performs, The Big Apple Chorus Quartet, Midtown Movement and Dance, guitarist Cory Sky, jazz singer Diane Sweet, and folk singer Mara Levine kept up the energy throughout the day.

In order to better showcase more local Murray Hill businesses, this year we offered Festival sponsorship packages that provided booth space at the Festival along with various benefits such as social media promotion on the MHNA accounts and business memberships. Our sponsors for 2019 were:

**Platinum:** Murray Hill Pediatric Dentistry and Kalvig & Shorter Veterinary Associates

**Gold:** Metropolitan Commercial Bank

**Silver:** Gramercy Kids Smiles & Gramercy Orthodontics, Bideawee, Turtle Bay Music School, wagamama, NYU Langone Health, and The Goddard School

**Bronze:** The Murray Hill Pet Hospital, Catherine Spengel & Thomas Horan, 7 Park Avenue, The Lovett Company, and Eugene A. Bartow Insurance Agency

Another new addition to the Festival this year was our Kid’s Book & Clothing Exchange. Jaclyn Greenman-Mommen is a Murray Hill mom who originated the idea of having parents and children drop off gently used toys and clothing while also being able to take home others’ donations for free. It was a hit with everyone and we needed to bring in an extra table to accommodate all of the donations. At the end of the day, Jaclyn arranged for the Administration for Children’s Services, which runs the Children’s Center on 29th Street and 1st Avenue, to pick up any remaining items to help children in their programs. We are looking forward to continuing this program next year!

The Silent Auction table was packed full of local items being auctioned off. This year we had a nice display of some donated original artwork done by Dean Avery of Sniffen Court and the Morgan Library, along with dinners, drinks, and merchandise from Murray Hill artisans and businesses. Thank you to all of the donors and congratulations to all of the high bidders!

The success of the Book Sale, Flea Market, and Bake Sale tables depends completely on the generosity of our Murray Hill neighbors and this year you outdid yourselves! We had a record number of books donated and a plethora of items at the Flea Market that made it easy to find a treasure to take home with you. And who could pass up the homemade treats at the Bake Sale—from chocolate chip banana bread to gooey caramel chocolate chip brownies, there was more than enough to go around.

Our long-running annual Street Festival is one of the events that makes The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association unique and we thank all of our neighbors and local businesses for participating and supporting the MHNA. If you would like to be involved in the planning for next year’s event, please reach out to Ashley Petrylak at info@murray-hillnyc.org.
Our Silent Auction Donors Helped to Make the Street Festival a Success!

The Silent Auction drew many bidders on Saturday, June 1 at The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association’s Street Festival. We are very grateful to our neighborhood businesses’ generous ongoing support as donors. The Silent Auction would not have been possible without the hard work of Michael-Ann Rowe, Lilli Seidman Davis and Marion Weingarten and all of the dedicated volunteers and trustees who contacted businesses for donations and assisted at the Silent Auction table on the day of the festival.

Silent Auction Donors

2 Beans, Inc.  Eneslow Shoes & Orthotics
Benjamin’s Steak House  Fine & Rare
Bernie Weil  Fix and Accessorize
Bravest on 38th  Franchia Vegan Café
Brother Jimmy’s BBQ  Gemini Diner
City Beer  Hendriks
Covina Restaurant (Park South Hotel)  Jonathan Services
Daniels Bagel  Kalvig & Shorter
Déjà vu Hairstylist  Le Parisien Bistrot
Delectica Café  MarieBelle’s gourmet chocolates
Docks Oyster Bar  Modern Pinball NYC
Donation from Sue Salmanson  Mulligan’s Pub
Dr. Joseph Askinasi, DC, DABCO  o ya (Park South Hotel)
El Parador Café  Olga Jakim

Sunday at the Ballet
By Marion Weingarten

On the first Sunday afternoon in May members of the MHNA and their guests attended a matinee performance of the New York City Ballet. In addition, we met Emily Kikta, a member of the corps de ballet. A native of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Emily has been dancing for most of her twenty seven years. From the time she was a toddler of two until her teenage years, her mother was her instructor. Happily in 2011 Emily became a member of the corps and in 2018, as a film major, earned a degree from Fordham University. Following our talk we visited backstage and then were ready for the day’s program.

The first ballet, a favorite of mine, was Slaughter On Tenth Avenue, an early work choreographed by Balanchine with music originally composed by Richard Rodgers for the musical On The Town. Sara Mearns, as the strip tease girl, was sensational with her high kicks and backbends. Prior to the next ballet, Barber Violin Concerto with music by Samuel Barber and choreography by Peter Martins, we were treated to “See The Music,” an informative exploration of the score. This ballet contrasts a classical couple with a bare-footed couple as the worlds of ballet and modern dance collide. Diamonds, from the ballet Jewels, was the final offering with choreography by Balanchine to a Tchaikovsky score. Diamonds recalled the grandeur of Balanchine’s early days in imperial Russia. Maria Kowroski and Tyler Angle in the principal roles were both outstanding. This was the perfect ending to an enchanting afternoon.
Tom Miller Talks About Famous Residents on East 36th Street

By Elaine Silber, Co-Chair Preservation & Design Committee

The Makor Center for Spiritual Judaism was the setting for a lively and informative talk and slide show by blogger and author Tom Miller. This event, held on Saturday April 6th, drew a full crowd, eager to absorb Tom’s encyclopedic knowledge about a group of prominent people who once lived in Murray Hill. Mr. Miller’s gift for story-telling created the mood and set everyone back to the time period in which these people lived.

The talk focused on the rich history of a group of people and buildings on one block in Murray Hill—East 36th Street between Lexington and Park Avenue. This block was once home to a number of distinguished political, business and military figures, including Admirals Benjamin Franklin Isherwood and Daniel G. Farragut of “Damn the Torpedoes” fame. Shipping magnate Charles Carow and his wife Gertrude Elizabeth Tyler made their home at 114 East 36th Street, and Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt moved to this block after their marriage, calling their townhouse at 125 East 36th Street their “14 foot mansion.”

William Travers Jerome, a New York District Attorney at the turn of the century also made his home on East 36th Street. Known for his campaign against political corruption, he was

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20% discount off framing for Murray Hill residents

Look for the invitation to our 20-year celebration in September!
famous for prosecuting and sending Pittsburgh railroad heir Harry Thaw to prison. Thaw, who married model and actress Evelyn Nesbit, was the man who shot and killed architect Stanford White in a jealous rage when he learned that White had had an affair with Nesbit years earlier.

The block was also home to The Louisa E. Rostan House at 111 East 36th Street, named for the woman who had a school at that address. The school was for young ladies, groomed for future lives in polite society. It was here that they learned French, music, art, and etiquette. When the house was sold in 1872, Rear Admiral Benjamin Isherwood and his family moved in.

To learn more about other famous residents who lived on East 36th Street and to read the history of other buildings and neighborhoods in Manhattan, check out Tom Miller's blog Daytonian In Manhattan.

The Preservation & Design Committee of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association thanks Tom Miller for his lecture and Terry Katz from the Makor Center for hosting this event.

This event was sponsored by the Preservation & Design Committee of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association, The Makor Center for Spiritual Judaism, Stein Berre and Britt Smith.

The Carlton Regency joins the MHNA as a Building Member

In our Spring issue, we announced a new category of Murray Hill Neighborhood Association membership—Building Members. The MHNA welcomes the first building to join, the Carlton Regency, a co-op building located on Lexington Avenue at the northeast corner of 36th Street. MHNA trustee Nancy Sheran, who is also a resident of the CR for over 30 years, spoke briefly at the building's annual shareholders meeting in June about the MHNA and its programs. The MHNA acquired some new members as a result of the meeting, and we are excited about the opportunity to work further with the Carlton Regency.

Drawing of the Carlton Regency by Minor Bishop. This drawing is included in the book Sketching on Murray Hill, which is available for purchase on the MHNA's website catalog.
Thank You to All Our Generous 2018 Donors
By Victoria Spagnola, Chairwoman, Patrons of Park Avenue

The Murray Hill Malls on Park Avenue are supported almost totally by the generosity of buildings, small businesses and civic-minded individuals in Murray Hill who realize that the Park Avenue Malls are one of the largest attractions in Murray Hill and definitely improve all property values. Below you will see a list of supporters for 2018. If your building's name is not among them, whether you are on Park Avenue or not, please urge your Board of Directors and your Management Company to consider supporting this neighborhood treasure. For more information please contact Victoria Spagnola, 2019 Chairwoman of the Patrons of Park Avenue, email victoria.spagnola@patronsofparkavenue.org or write to 50 Park Avenue, Suite 14C, New York, NY 10016.

Benefactors (2018)

- 2 Park Avenue
- 7 Park Avenue
- 10 Park Avenue
- 15-17 Park Avenue
- 20 Park Avenue
- 23 Park Avenue
- 40 Park Avenue
- 41 Park Avenue
- 45 Park Avenue
- 70 Park Avenue
- Thomas Schumacher

Patrons

- 35 Park Avenue
- 67 Park Avenue

Gardeners

- 50 Park Avenue
- 77 Park Avenue
- Eric Michael & Christina Anton
- Bartow Insurance Agency
- Church of the Incarnation
- Christina Coleman and The Coleture Group
- Federal Home Loan Bank of NY
- Philip and Cheryl Greenberg

Tree Sponsors

- Alban Construction
- Alexelrod, Fingerhut & Dennis
- Una Baker
- CS Maintenance Corp.
- Flushing Bank
- Edwin and Thayer Hochberg
- Thomas Horan & Catherine Spengle
- Interiors by John Chadwick
- J.G.M. Decorating Inc.
- Kanaris Contracting Corp.
- Lighting Gallery
- The Lovett Company
- Lucidity Awards and Signage Corp.
- Possible Production
- Resolution 400 SPV, Inc.
- Samson Management
- Anne Sibbald
- Universal Production

Greening Committee Report

Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Greening Committee

Our committee volunteers continue the effort to keep Murray Hill an attractive and pleasant place to live. Ongoing efforts include working with the Parks Department in securing new tree plantings throughout the neighborhood. We also coordinate with outside contractors to attend to specific needs like tree inspection and fertilization.

On May 4th, a group of 15 MHNA volunteers assembled to clean the tree beds along 2nd and 3rd Avenues in Murray Hill. Due to the ongoing DOT street work along the Avenues, the cleanup was very sorely needed. The project took less than two hours and the results were remarkable. Please watch for announcements of the upcoming Spring 2020 event and join us if you can.

Anyone noticing an empty tree bed can submit a tree planting request directly to the Parks Dept. at: www.nycgovparks.org. Or email horan.tc@gmail.com, include the location (using nearest building address of the tree bed).

Enjoy Autumn in Murray Hill!
Council District 3, Speaker Corey Johnson
- Improve lighting in the park areas at both the NYCHA Elliott-Chelsea Houses and Fulton Houses: $600,000.
- Installation of 35 new water bottle refilling fountains in public schools throughout District 3. Location: $300,000
- Providing a tree guard, watering tree-gator and informative care tag for street trees planted district wide since 2017: $200,000

Council District 4, Council Member Keith Powers
- New Districtwide Tree Planting and Tree Guards: $150,000
- New Bathrooms at Wagner Middle School (M.S. 167): $200,000
- Districtwide Countdown Clocks at Bus Stops: $200,000
- Districtwide Technology Upgrades for Libraries: $250,000
- Technology Upgrades for Schools Across Council District 4: $120,000

For as little as $500 a year you can sponsor weekly cleaning, watering and weeding for our Murray Hill malls.

In return, your name or your company’s name will appear in all Murray Hill publications showing your civic spirit and your pride in our neighborhood.

Please contact us today to join us in this wonderful cause!

To join, contact:
Victoria Spagnola
2019 Chairwoman, Patrons of Park Avenue
50 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016
Email: victoria.spagnola@patronsofparkavenue.org
Gallery35 Opens its Fall Season on September 8

Gallery35 opens its season with *A Social Justice Exhibit* (working title) running from September 8 to October 19.

This exhibit complements The Community Service Society of New York’s conference at Community Church: *Full Participation is a Human Right – Moving Beyond Punishment*, October 17-19. The artists’ reception will be on September 21 and the closing reception will be on October 19, both from 6-8pm. Gallery35 is located at 30 East 35th Street (between Park and Madison Avenue), www.gallery35nyc.com, email gallery35ny@gmail.com. All events at the gallery are free and open to the public.

The second exhibition features the works of Susan Demmet and Ingrid Sletten in a two-person show, *Soul Speaking*, October 20 to November 24. Each artist uses different visuals to portray what the soul communicates. Demmet states,
“The subject matter of my paintings and drawings is pre-birth, birth and the events that follow in abstract and fantastical visuals.” Sletten says, of her works, “I seek to show the human spirit as palpable, almost mineral-like energy within and around the human form.” The artists’ and closing receptions will be October 26 and November 23 respectively, both from 6-8pm. There will also be an Artist Talk on November 3 from 1-2:30 pm.

In time for holiday shopping, the Gallery will reprise their Small Works Show, opening November 24. Affordable art no larger than 12” in any dimension will be available at their reception and sale on December 7th.
Arts, Culture & Leisure

By Sona Robbins Cohen

The Morgan Library and Museum
225 Madison Avenue at 36th Street

EXHIBITS:

Walt Whitman: Bard of Democracy, through September 15. This exhibit celebrates the 200th anniversary of Whitman's birth in 1819. The exhibit explores his early years as a journalist through his later years as a more private poet. On display are several of his notebooks, plus his portraitist's copy of Leaves of Grass and the famous letter to him by Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Hogarth: Cruelty and Humor, through September 22. The satirical scenes of English artist William Hogarth (1697-1764) are representative of 18th century urban life. Featured are 6 preparatory sheets for two of his most revered print series, issued February 1751: Beer Street and Gin Lane and The Four Stages of Cruelty.

Among Others: Photography and The Group, through August 18. This exhibition explores how photographers illustrate uniting people through group portraits, serial works or composites. Works are mainly from the Morgan collection.

Drawing the Curtain: Maurice Sendak's Designs for Opera and Ballet, through October 6. In addition to his beloved children's books, Sendak (1928-2012) was also an avid music and opera lover. In the late 1970's he started a successful second career as a designer of sets and costumes for the stage. This is the first museum exhibition dedicated to his new career, featuring storyboards, sketches, costume designs and dioramas.

Verdi: Creating Otello and Falstaff – Highlights From the Ricordi Archive, September 6, 2019-January 5, 2020. Coaxed out of his retirement in his 70's and 80's by his publisher, Giuseppe Verdi (1813-1901) composed his crowning opera achievements: Otello and Falstaff. This is the first time in the United States that rare documents and artifacts related to these productions are exhibited, including set designs, costumes, manuscripts, contracts and video excerpts from recent productions.

John Singer Sargent: Portrait in Charcoal, October 4, 2019-January 12, 2020. Sargent, 1856-1925, who was one of the greatest portrait artists of his time, ceased painting portraits in 1907 and turned to charcoal drawings for his portrait commissions. This is the first major exhibit to explore these charcoal portrait drawings

Guercino: Virtuoso Draftsman, October 4, 2019-February 2, 2020. Giovanni Francesco Barbieri, known as Guercino, (1591-1666), was the most interesting draftsman of diverse media during the Baroque era. This exhibit focuses on the more than 25 of his works owned by the Morgan, supplemented by public and private loans.

Illusions of the Photographer: Duane Michals at the Morgan, October 25, 2019-February 2, 2020. This is the first full career retrospective by a New York City museum, following Michals’ unconventional approach to photography, using techniques such as writing in the margins of his prints, and deriving poetic effects from technical errors like double exposure.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS:

Public Programs:
Lectures, concerts, gallery talks, films, family events: themorgan.org; 212-685-0008. Friday open until 9 pm; 7-9 pm FREE. Dining: Morgan Café or Dining Room and the new coffee and wine bar. NOTE: The Morgan offers discounts to MHNA members for certain public programs. When ordering online click “member.” When ordering by phone say that you’re a MHNA member. MHNA members joining the Morgan for the first time get an extra month (13 instead of 12); 212-590-0322; www.themorgan.org/support/membership.

The New York Public Library

The New York Public Library
Stephen A. Schwarzman Building, 476 Fifth Avenue at 42nd Street
www.nypl.org/schwarzman

EXHIBITS:

J. D. Salinger, October 18, 2019-January 19, 2020. Sue and Edgar Wachenheim III Gallery, Main Floor. An exhibition of manuscripts, letters, photographs, books, and personal effects drawn exclusively from J. D. Salinger’s private archive. The J. D. Salinger Literary Trust is sharing these items with the public for the first time. The free exhibition coincides with J.D. Salinger's Centennial.

William Rayner, Stokes Gallery, third floor. Watercolors. (Dates TBA).

Jill Kupin Rose Gallery, ongoing. Large wall panels display the history, collections and services of the NYPL.

NYPL Digitizes Complete Jewish Oral History Transcripts: 2250 transcripts of Jewish notables by the American Jewish Committee. digitalcollections.nypl.org/american-jewish-committee.

Online Exhibitions: nypl.org/events/online-exhibitions.

Live From the NYPL: Lectures, discussions with prominent experts in many fields. For schedule and fees: nypl.org/live; 1-888-718-4253. nypl.org/events/programs.
**Arts, Culture & Leisure**

**SIBL (Science, Industry and Business Library), at 188 Madison Avenue at 34th Street)**, Talks on finance, careers, computer workshops, etc.

**Mid-Manhattan (5th Ave., 40th St.) CLOSED FOR RENOVATION.** Services and activities have been relocated to other libraries, including 42nd Street and SIBL, nypl.org/midtown.

**Kips Bay Branch (446 Third Ave., 31st St.)** Fully Accessible. Family-friendly activities, book discussions, movies, senior exercise sessions and more.

**Grand Central Branch (135 East 46th St. at Lexington Ave.)** Fully Accessible. Family-friendly activities, Spanish conversation circle, movies, meditation, book talks, and more.

**CUNY Graduate Center**

365 Fifth Avenue at 34th Street, in the landmark B. Altman building

gc.cuny.edu/publicprograms

From September-June CUNY Graduate Center presents a wide range of public programs: concerts, lectures, plays, screenings and exhibits. Many events are free, but you can get discounts for events with fees if you become a member for $50 a year. Support a great NYC cultural institution. 212-817-7130, gc.cuny.edu/membership. Check events at gc.cuny.edu/publicprograms; 212-817-8215.

**MUSIC IN MIDTOWN**

Free concerts Thursdays, 1 pm by CUNY doctoral candidates, renowned faculty and guest artists. No tickets or reservations needed. Elebash Hall Main Floor. Also free evening recitals.

**September 26**:
- Vanessa Cunha and Mika Rannali: 4-hand piano featuring folk influences in music by Busoni, Miranda, Rachmaninoff, Schubert and Villa-Lobos.

**October 10**:
- Daniel Gortler, piano, and the Shanghai String Quartet with music by Beethoven, Brahms, Grieg.

**October 24**:
- Rolf Schulte, violin and James Winn, piano, Graduate Center faculty, with music of Beethoven, Schoenberg, Webern and Bartok.

**November 7**:
- Piano trio with Norman Carey, pianist. (Program and performers, TBA).

**November 21**:
- Chamber music with doctoral candidates. (Program and performers, TBA).

**December 5**:
- Chamber music with doctoral candidates. (Program and performers, TBA).

**American-Scandinavian Foundation—Scandinavia House**

58 Park Avenue (between 37th & 38th Street)

**EXHIBIT:**

Cutting Edges: Nordic Concrete Art from the Erling Neby Collection, Opening date Oct. 12. From before World War II until today Concrete Art, a movement with emphasis on geometric abstract art, has been important in the Nordic countries. This exhibit features over 30 works in painting, graphics and sculptures by artists from all the Nordic countries. Included will be various programs, including art workshops for children.

**CONCERTS:**

Music on Park Avenue with Per Tengstrand, pianist, Evening concerts usually start at 7:30 pm, with a talk about the music at 7pm: $25; $20 members.

**Thurs. Oct. 17**: Piano with strings: Gershwin, Rhapsody in Blue; Schumann, Piano Quartet (or Quintet);

**Sat. Nov. 2, 4 pm**: Solo piano recital.

**Thurs. Nov. 21**:
- Piano with strings: Rachmaninoff, Concerto No. 2; Brahms, Piano Quartet in G minor.

**Winter series 2020:**

**Thurs. Jan. 16** (solo piano)

**Thurs. Feb. 27 & Mar. 26** (with string quartet)

**Keyboard Conversations With Jeffrey Siegel**: Thurs. Sept. 27, 8pm. $25; $20 members. Series continues Thurs. 8pm: Jan. 23, March 19 and April 30

Icelandic-American cellist, Saeunn Thorsteinsdottir, from her album Vernacular. Thurs. Oct. 24, 7:30pm. $20; $15 members.

**Choreographer/Dancer Charlotte Oysterholm**, performing arts event: Sat. Oct. 4. Time and price TBA.

**LITERARY EVENTS:**

**Book Talks: FREE**

Christopher P. Heuer: The Renaissance Arctic and the End of the Image: Sat. Sept.21, 1 pm

**Timothy Boyce: The Secret WWII Concentration Camp Diary of Old Nansen**: Tues. Oct. 15, 7 pm

**FILMS:** Check website for fall film series.

**FAMILY/CHILDREN’S ACTIVITIES:**


**Smorgas and the gift shop.** Tel. 212-779-3587. Membership: same number

**Doctors Orchestra Concert**

111 East 33rd Street, off Park Avenue
doctorsorchestra.org

FREE, donations welcome. doctorsorchestra.org. 111 East 33 Street. Check website for fall and winter concert schedule. Classical orchestral music with talented featured soloist.

**Bryant Park**

40th to 42nd Street, between 5th & 6th Avenue: behind the 42nd Street Library

bryantpark.org: 212-768-4242. Facebook, twitter, blog, newsletters, brochures.

Early fall: Carousel (all year), restaurants, jazz lunchtime piano through Oct. 4 & other music programs, juggling, ping pong, chess, yoga, tai chi, fencing, reading room and more.

Late fall: The Pond, free ice skating through February, 2020; holiday shops.

Contact: 212-768-4242; bryantpark.org; Facebook, Twitter, blog, newsletters, brochures.
Come for the Wood and Nails, Stay for the Free Advice
By Deborah Baldwin

Three-generation family-run Lumber Boys is Murray Hill's oldest hardware store, with an eclectic inventory and loyal fans.

The first thing that hits you is the scent of fresh sawdust—unusual in Midtown. Next is the presence of actual human beings, helpful ones, standing behind an old-fashioned counter, ready to take your questions.

Like, “How do I fix the busted seat on my favorite chair?” “Can you help me squeeze a bookcase into this alcove?” and “Where do I find the right doohickey to fix this whatchamacallit?”

After 71 years, family-run Lumber Boys has heard it all, says Robert Ross, who runs the store with his dad, Steven, adding dryly, “Whenever there’s a pipe leaking in the neighborhood, we know about it.”

Saturday was once their biggest day, but with so many apartment dwellers willing to let someone else do it these days, contractors now contribute the heaviest traffic. Dodging buses and cabs, they pull up along the hectic street on weekdays and jump out in search of sheetrock, concrete mix and plumbing and electrical parts. Or screws—there’s an entire wall dedicated to them.

Robert and Steven Ross

Much else has changed since 1948, when Lumber Boys opened on the east side of Second Avenue at 38th, twixt a bustling neighborhood and an industrial zone. An Eastern Airlines terminal joined the scene in 1953, but in 1972, when Robert’s grandad Herbert became an owner, the Corinthian condo had yet to go up on the terminal’s foundation, and Con Ed’s colonization of the riverfront was keeping the area low key. “We used to park our forklift on the street,” Robert says.

The shop began as a lumber yard that also made things, aided by a crew of German carpenters and a manual-hoist elevator. Over time, tools, hinges, light bulbs, potting soil and other flotsam joined the inventory.

In 2013 Lumber Boys jumped from its spot between the Bravest bar and the Townhouse Diner to a smaller location across Second. Though it shifted some of its equipment to the Bronx, a table saw is parked in the basement near shelves piled with pine, poplar and oak claiming credit for those woody scents.

And if other hardware stores have moved into housewares and decor, Lumber Boys is still a go-to for plywood and solid dimensional lumber. My husband came here to get custom-fit oak window sills for our 36th-Street apartment, and returned to order a wood door for our new bath. “Home Depot [on West 23rd St.] doesn’t have wood, so they send customers to us,” Robert says.

Foot traffic is steady (“we get a lot of requests for soundproofing”), but the advent of online shopping hasn’t escaped notice by the family, who maintain a website (lumberboys.com) and take orders by email. (Footnote: Members of the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association get a 10 percent discount.) And yes, they deliver.

Personal service is still the main draw. “We’ll help you every step,” says Robert, “though don’t ask us to come over and install that sink.”
Collectors Club Announces 2019-20 Schedule for Its Youth and Adult Free Stamp Collecting Programs

The Collectors Club is a world-renowned, 123 year old stamp collecting club located in a landmark building at 22 East 35th Street. In September it will begin the eleventh year of its popular Youth Stamp Club. Children in grades 4 and up are welcome. No previous knowledge or experience with stamps is necessary; beginners are welcome. The program and all materials are free. Stamp Club activities show youngsters how much fun the hobby can be. They learn to identify stamps from countries around the world and pursue further those subjects that interest them as independent projects. Several participants have presented the results of their projects at an annual meeting of the Collectors Club.

Meetings are held at the Collectors Club from 10 to 11:30 am, usually on the third Saturday of the month. The dates for 2019-20 are: September 21, October 19, November 16, December 21, January 18, February 15, March 21, April 18 and May 16.

In October, the Club will begin its eighth year of a program for adults who are interested in stamp collecting. This free program is aimed at people new to stamp collecting as well as people who have done it in the past and wish to return to the hobby. In addition, those who are curious about “Grandpa’s old stamp album that I found in the attic” are also encouraged to join in and find out what interested “Grandpa.” They may discover that they, too, share this interest. The club offers information, encouragement and guidance. You will not be asked to purchase anything.

Stamp collecting can be an absorbing, challenging and creative hobby, as well as a peaceful interlude in a stressful day. There are a myriad of subjects and themes to discover. The first two meetings will be at 1 pm, October 19 and December 21 at the Collectors Club. Additional dates will be announced later.

For information or to register for either program, email info@collectorsclub.org or call 212-683-0559. Space is limited so early registration is advisable for both programs.

The Collectors Club is a member of The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association.

Murray Hill Businesses Came Together for the Spring B2B Networking Event

The rainy evening on Thursday, May 30th didn’t daunt Murray Hill businesses, who gathered in the beautiful (and tented) back garden at Kalvig & Shorter Veterinary Associates for the Spring B2B networking event. These networking events always provide an opportunity for everyone to share their ‘elevator pitch’ and tell the others about their business, and the room was filled with lots of ideas on how to cross market business efforts.

This event would not have been possible without our generous host and co-sponsor Kalvig & Shorter Veterinary Associates. Refreshments were courtesy of Tastes Brands providing specialty cocktails, The Fishionista™ for making seafood sliders, House of Wine and Liquor for providing delicious Summer Rosé wine, and the hands-down very best guacamole and chips ever from Al Pastor, The Pod Hotel. We thank them!

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association’s Business Networking Committee presented this event and will continue to offer interesting and unique opportunities for businesses to network and socialize. You can contact co-chairs Lilli Seidman Davis (lillianseidman@yahoo.com) and Michael-Ann Rowe (michaelannrowe@gmail.com) for further information regarding membership, involvement, sponsorship, or providing discounts to MHNA members to help promote your business. Stay tuned for our next event!
Minor Bishop Remembered continued from page 5

worked in his beloved neighborhood of Murray Hill, designing buildings in New York, Connecticut, Maine, and the Caribbean, including the resort in Bermuda known as “The Reefs.” This resort was one of the few which remained standing when most other buildings on the island were destroyed by Hurricane Sandy. He later built his own practice, specializing in houses from the 1880’s, which he bought, renovated and sold. He worked with prominent families like that of Preston Bush, father of President George W. Bush, Jane Pauley, and Charles Howard, owner of the famous racehorse Seabiscuit, among others.

Minor had a passion for creating, and he took his sketchbook with him on his daily outings. He put together a book of his sketches titled Sketching on Murray Hill which he was proud to autograph in order to encourage appreciation for the district. He authored two other books on architecture, Architectural Renderings: By Winners of the Birch Burdett Long Memorial Prize, and Fountains in Contemporary Architecture.

He was an active member in the Fine Arts Federation, the Architectural League of New York, the American Institute of Architects and, as an enthusiastic hiker, the Appalachian Mountain Club.

He developed a genuine fondness for everyone he came in contact with, and he truly cared about the environment. He retained a sharp and active mind and continued working on projects up to the time of his passing. He possessed a rascal’s charm, had many friends, and will be deeply missed, but not forgotten.

Minor Bishop’s video and book, Sketching on Murray Hill are both available for purchase on the MHNA website.


“Nobody Taking Away My Stoop” recalls the city’s proposal to widen the streets leading in and out of the Midtown Tunnel, which would have meant removing the stoops of the townhouses on 36th and 37th Streets. This led to the formation of the Murray Hill Committee, predecessor to the MHNA, which was formed as a neighborhood activist group to protest the removal of the stoops.

The MHNA Young Professionals Networking Committee hosted their latest event, a “Vin & Fin” with Drucker Wealth Management, on June 13. The evening of wine tasting and financial educational was held in the comfortable residents’ lounge of The Lindley, a new full-service condominium building at 591 Third Avenue (between 38th and 39th Streets). Gideon Drucker presented topics such as savings strategies, investment behavior, wealth creation, and importance of goal-setting, while Ryan McWilliams of McW Wines guided attendees through four wine tastings. The evening ended with tours of The Lindley’s picturesque rooftop and a spacious two bedroom apartment with 800 square feet of patio space.