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## Bedford • Barrow • Commerce

Block Association  
46 Barrow Street • New York, NY 10014

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Annual Membership is still (only) \$20;  
For information,  
Please call 212.366.1451.

### BBC NEWS AND VIEWS October 2013

The next BBC Meeting is Wednesday, October 2 at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St.). At 7 PM, **Rachel Black**, who joined the Greenwich House staff in June 2013 as the Music School Director, will discuss the partnerships the School is undertaking with local music venues and local businesses.

Rachel is a classically trained actor, and a graduate of the American Conservatory Theater's MFA program. She has worked extensively in film, television and theater. Most recently, she was General Manager at Central Park SummerStage, New York City's largest free performing arts festival.

She expanded the growth in managed rental events by over 30 percent, oversaw a major capital purchase to improve the festival's audio capabilities, started a new usher program, and created a vastly improved VIP/Member experience.

While working at SummerStage, she improved festival efficiency and instituted many best practices including venue emergency protocol, sound control designs, an audio digital archive program, crew checklists, work policies, and personnel manuals. Rachel also curated the festival's word and comedy programs, recently expanding comedy into the citywide schedule and creating a new speaker series, Forewords, which debuted this past season.

At 6:45, refreshments will be served.

Attention BBC Filmmakers — the 2<sup>nd</sup> BBC Block Association Film Festival is coming Thursday,

November 7. We are looking for short films (15 minutes max) of any genre. Excerpts of works-in-progress will be considered. Our celebrity local filmmaker **Alice Elliott** has found the marvelous **Katy Jacobs** of The Paley Center for Media to curate our festival. Please email [Katyjacobs2@gmail.com](mailto:Katyjacobs2@gmail.com) for submission. Deadline for submission is October 10, 2013.

### Ye Olde Village Fair Fete

The BBC thanks good neighbor **Caliente Cab Company** for generously hosting, yet again, a cocktail party on Monday, September 23, at which charitable organizations received their contributions (totaling \$8,000 raised through Ye Olde Village Fair). The following is a list of organizations that received charitable contributions from the BBC Block Association this year: The Caring Community of Greenwich House; Cherry Lane Theater; Greenwich House Music School; Greenwich House Pottery; Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation; Hudson Park Library; Jefferson Market Garden; Larry Selman Trust fund; Shadybrook Inc. (Stray Animal Fund); St. Luke's Saturday Night Supper (PWA); St. Luke's Garden Fund; St. Joseph's Soup Kitchen; Visiting Neighbors; Washington Square Association; West Village Chorale.

This year's BBC Holiday Party (it's never too early to mark your calendars to make sure you're in town for the best holiday party for kids and grown-ups, not just in the Village,



but in all of New York City!) is set for Saturday, December 14 at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St.) 6-9 pm. So save that date!

The tree at 20 Commerce Street is on the Spring 2014 planting list. So that means it will be planted sometime in March - April 2014. Writes **Council Speaker Chris Quinn's Legislative Aide Allie Nudelman**: "We didn't anticipate it being this late, but Parks pushed back most of their fall plantings to the Spring." Delay courtesy of Superstorm Sandy.



Thanks to Allie for getting back to us, in the middle of the mayoral primary campaign. And special thanks for all the many things Chris' office has facilitated for the BBC through the years.

**The Bedford Downing Block Association**

skipped a year with its sidewalk sale but reports that "we're back this fall and welcoming vendors." Here's the scoop for anyone interested in selling at the sale.

**WHAT:** The Bedford Downing Block Association has been hosting a sidewalk sale for 15 years. It was strictly a neighborhood event, but now includes quality vendors of crafts.

**WHEN:** The sale is on Saturday, October 5, 2013. Sale hours are 10 AM-5 PM. Setup starts at 9 AM and you can breakdown until 6 PM. Due to city street closing regs there is no rain date. Cancel only if the weather is really impossible.

**WHERE:** The sale takes place on the block of Downing Street between Sixth Avenue and Bedford Street. Sidewalks and street are closed to traffic.

**HOW MUCH:** If you live in the "catchment area" of the Bedford Downing Block Association, the space costs \$25. (In other words if you live on Bedford or Downing Streets between Sixth and Seventh Avenues or in 10 Downing or on that bit of West Houston that is like part of Bedford) it's \$25. If you live anywhere else the space costs \$40. Payment must be received up front. NO payments on the day of the sale.

Please make checks to Bedford Downing Block Association and mail to Mary Ann Pizza, 19 Bedford Street, Apt. # 1, NYC, 10014. **YOUR OBLIGATIONS:** Bring everything you need (tables, chairs, bags) with you. Leave nothing — absolutely nothing — behind when you leave. **QUES-**

**TIONS:** Email them (elizabethmann.livvie@gmail.com) and "we're happy to answer them."

**NABE NOTES**

**News from Greenwich House:** Thanks to all who contributed to the Pottery's Kickstarter campaign to renovate the The Jane Hartsook Gallery at Greenwich House Pottery (16 Jones St.), making it a success by exceeding the required fundraising goal. Renovations to the School are now under way and will help raise the profile of the Gallery and the artists whose works will be featured there. Your support made all the difference; we could not have done it without you!

Tickets to the Greenwich House Arts Gala are now on sale! Join us on Tuesday, October 22, as we celebrate Greenwich House Arts programs — from the Pottery and Music Schools, to After-School, Summer Camp and Senior Center art classes. Join us for a memorable evening celebrating the Arts that enrich Greenwich House.

**Where:** City Winery;

**When:** Tuesday, October 22, 2013, Cocktails: 6:00 PM, Dinner and Reception: 7:00 PM. Our featured honorees include **David Gibson**, Ceramicist and faculty at the Pottery and BSNS, **Eli Koenig**, founding volunteer at the Judith C. White Senior Center's Theater Desk, and German Diez, Piano Chair at the Music School. For ticket or sponsorship information, contact **Hannah Read**, hread@greenwichhouse.org or (212) 991-0003, X401.

We are excited to announce **the launch of the Girls' Basketball League!** Formerly run by the

Greenwich Village Youth Council and founded by **Harry Malakoff** almost twenty years ago, this program provides girls ages 9-15 a chance to learn how to play basketball while enhancing self-esteem, teaching one to win and lose



gracefully, working well with others and instilling the discipline to faithfully attend practices and games. No experience is necessary. The registration deadline is October 15, so make sure you sign up today! Visit our website for more information or to download a copy of the registration form.

**Cherry Lane Theatre (38 Commerce St.) and Rattlestick Playwrights Theater** present a world premier production – **ONE NIGHT** . . . a new play by **Charles Fuller** directed by **Clinton Turner Davis**. What happens to our servicemen and women when they come home? Exploring the lingering effects of trauma, injustice and one woman's recompense, *ONE NIGHT* . . . takes an unflinching look at what has happened to women in the US Armed Forces when their decision to serve exposes them to an unforeseen battle against their fellow soldiers. *ONE NIGHT* . . . was commissioned by the Cherry Lane Theatre. October 17 - November 24. Tickets now on sale: [cherrylanetheatre.org](http://cherrylanetheatre.org) / (212) 352.3101.

**The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation (GVSHHP)** announces its October 2013 programs: **"The Age of Innocence"**— A lecture about the new opera based on the Edith Wharton novel. Thursday, October 10; 6:30 - 8:00 PM, Hudson Park Library, 66 Leroy Street, between Seventh Avenue South and Hudson Street. Free; reservations required.



The city of New York and its social mores were two of the most important elements in Edith Wharton's 1920 novel, *The Age of Innocence*. Composer **David Carpenter** has adapted this novel into a two-act opera, writing both the music and the libretto. In this lecture, Carpenter will discuss Wharton's portrayal of New York society of the 1870s, which included a number of locations in Greenwich Village, and how this portrait of New York figures in his opera and its story. To register, please call (212) 475-9585 or [rsvp@gvshp.org](mailto:rsvp@gvshp.org).

**"Wooden Houses of Greenwich Village"** – A lecture by **Elizabeth Finkelstein** and **Michael Devonshire**. Monday, October 21; 6:30 - 8:00 PM, Washington Square Institute, 41-51 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor (east of University Place). Free; reservations required. Greenwich Village is celebrated for its beautiful rows of brick and brownstone townhouses. Those who meander through the neighborhood's winding, historic streets are often surprised to encounter the occasional

wooden house sandwiched between masonry houses and apartment buildings, channeling a bygone era. How and when did these houses arrive here?



Why are there so few? Perhaps, most curiously, how on earth have they survived for so long? To register, please call (212) 475-9585 X35 or [rsvp@gvshp.org](mailto:rsvp@gvshp.org).

**The Neighborhood Preservation Center** (232 East 11<sup>th</sup> Street) features **Richard Dadey, Executive Director, Citizens Union of the City of New York**, discussing **"The Role of Community Activism and Advocacy in Affecting 'Good' Government,"** October 7, 8:30-10 AM. Free to the public.

**The Gotham Center for New York History** presents its fall programs. ALL EVENTS THIS FALL ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. For more information, call 212-817-8471. The events will all take place at the CUNY Graduate Center, 365 Fifth Avenue at 34<sup>th</sup> Street, from 6:30 PM to 8 PM. **"Miss Anne in Harlem: The White Women of the Black Renaissance,"** Monday, September 30, 2013, 6:30-8 PM, Martin E. Segal Theater. **Carla Kaplan** offers a new perspective of the 1920s in this lively, groundbreaking group biography that uncovers for the first time, the untold story of the white women of the black Harlem Renaissance.

**"Priests of Our Democracy: The Supreme Court, Academic Freedom and the Anti Communist Purge,"** Thursday, October 10, 2013, 6:30-8 PM, Martin E. Segal Theater. **Marjorie Heins**, civil liberties lawyer, writer, teacher, and the founding director of the Free Expression Policy Project discusses her new book, *Priests of Our Democracy: The Supreme Court, Academic Freedom, and the Anti-Communist Purge*. **SOSÚA: Make A Better World: A Film Screening,** Wednesday, October 23, 2013, 6:30-8 PM. Elebash Recital Hall. **SOSÚA: Make A Better World** tells the story of Dominican and Jewish teenagers in New York's Washington Heights neighborhood, who together with the legendary theater director

## Resources & Information

The Moreland Commission established by **Gov. Andrew Cuomo** to investigate public corruption has not wasted any time in sending a message to state lawmakers that it means business. On September 17 the hearing, at Pace University, was open to the public and comments can be submitted to the commission online.

Cuomo fulfilled a threat to convene the commission in July after state lawmakers failed to pass legislation to strengthen oversight of the state's campaign finance laws. A series of federal indictments, a sexual harassment scandal and revelations that some lawmakers were recording their colleagues for the FBI led to public outcry about the murky business in Albany. Polls showed New Yorkers wanted something done about what appeared to be a new scourge of public corruption.

Cuomo announced on July 2 the creation of a panel "to probe systemic public corruption and the appearance of such corruption in state government, political campaigns and elections in New York State." He did so under the Moreland Act, which was passed by the Legislature in 1907 and took its name from a legislator, **Sherman Moreland**.

The commission has subpoena power and can take testimony under oath. Giving the commission significantly expanded power, state Attorney General Schneiderman deputized a number of commission members which the Cuomo administration says will give them "broad-based authority."

The Moreland Commission's first report is due in December, ahead of the next legislative session that begins in January. Whatever is in it could leave a fog over the Legislature. Some advocates are quietly pushing for Cuomo to introduce a series of reforms informed by the Moreland Commission's findings as part of his budget while other groups want Cuomo to let the package stand on its own merits and not try to ram it through with budget bills.  
*from the Gotham Gazette*

According to *The New York Post*, the recent ruling against stop-and-frisk has emboldened the city's pistol-packing perps. In the month after federal judge Shira Scheindlin's decision that the police procedure is *unconstitutional*, shootings spiked nearly 13 percent — and gun seizures plummeted more than 17 percent. During the 28 days ending Sept. 8, there were 140 shootings across the Big Apple, compared with 124 during the same period

last year. The number of gunshot victims was up more than 9 percent, with 164 people struck by bullets this year, compared with 150 shot over that month last year.

## Old News

### Wife Made Him Rich, Now He's Left Her

Mrs. Adolphus W. Whitaker, 60 years old, who is suing her husband, David A. Whitaker, for separation on the ground of cruelty and desertion, filed yesterday one of the strangest affidavits which has been received in the Court House in recent years. Mrs. Whitaker is the widow of Detective Thompson, who was attached to Police Headquarters...

Mrs. Whitaker married her present husband on Oct. 27, 1901. For two years thereafter, she said, Whitaker, who is now 57 years old, was a model husband. He lived with her in a house which she owned at 21 King Street. The most he ever gave her, she said, was \$40 a month out of which she had to run the house and dress and feed both him and herself. Mrs. Whitaker owns another house at 46 Barrow Street. From her house at 21 King Street she gets \$55 a month rent for two apartments and she gets \$85 a month rent from her Barrow Street house. But the mortgage and other expenses eat up all of this income, she says.

From investments made with her money and by her direction, Mrs. Whitaker says that her husband has amassed \$18,000 and \$20,000. Notwithstanding that he makes good income from his profession as a marine engineer, he has kept all this money for himself, and now has it in his possession, she avers....

After two years of married life, Mrs. Whitaker said, her husband beat her cruelly. He told her, she said, that if she cared to follow him when he went out at night, she might obtain the evidence on which to base a suit for divorce....

...What finally broke up her home was an incident on April 1 last. On that day she had had ten teeth extracted. She suffered great pain and the dentist gave her a narcotic powder to apply to her gums. Her husband came home in the evening, bringing a pail of beer, and offered it to her as she was applying the powder to her gums....(She said), "That night my husband was pleasant with me and kissed me before he retired...The following evening ...I went to the home of a Miss Margaret Kennedy, who was sick with pneumonia, and upon my return to my amazement, I found that my husband had taken his clothes and departed and that he subsequently claimed that I had tried to poison him with the powder.

*from the New York Times, October 7, 1910*