



Bedford • Barrow • Commerce

Block Association
46 Barrow Street • New York, NY 10014

Annual Membership is still (only!) \$15.
For information, please call (212) 366.1451.

BBC NEWS AND VIEWS

JUNE 2012 MEETING

The next BBC Meeting (and last until the fall) is Monday, June 25 at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St.) at 7:00 PM. At 6:30, enjoy cool drinks with your neighbors in the Garden; then, at 7:00, deliberate with your neighbors over budget appropriations for next year.

YE OLDE VILLAGE FAIR

The 38th Annual Ye Olde Village Fair was a smashing success! This year, we had beautiful weather and Villagers and visitors alike crowded the Outdoor Café, listening to live music, including old nabe faves such as The Grove Street Stompers, and enjoying the offerings of the International Food Court, and all the booths of our Juried Crafts & Fine Art Fair, which featured the original creations of wonderful artists and artisans. As always, all monies raised by the BBC through the Fair go right back to our community — to care for our nearly 100 trees and treepits, and to help fund many worthy programs of local organizations. The BBC extends heartfelt thanks to **The Goodwin NYC** (the new, totally cool Village Brasserie and Wine Bar on Hudson Street. It is friendly with fab fare AND it's gorgeous, too. Try it, you will love it!), **Commerce Bar and Restaurant, New York University, Sotheby's International Realty, Matt Umanov Guitars**, 2012 Ye Olde Village Fair underwriters, who helped subsidize our entertainment, as well as tables and chairs and drinkables, raffles and tote bags — a HUGE help. Many thanks to these generous BBC neighbors and businesses. And extra special thanks to these generous individuals and institutions, who together lent their financial support to the Fair to the tune of over \$5,500: **William B. Dunham, Karen Fornash, Green Mountain Energy Company, Fia Hatsav, Doris Keen, Doug Kepple, the Jerome and Kenneth Lipper Foundation, Elizabeth Peyton, Donna Pond, Barry F. Schwartz, Paul**

and Christine Smith, Mack Edge Management LLC. WOW! That is generosity, that is community spirit, that is leadership.

And MORE thanks to **Anne Brenner, Tom Burrows, Mary Kay Doris, Tess Graziano, Fia Hatsav, Diane Levine, and Patsy Powers** who worked tirelessly at the BBC Coffee and Dessert Table.

Extra special thanks to **Dora Nyffenegger**, who is the BBC master baker — Dora's Apple Pie has become a legend! — and to **Diane Levine**, who for the past several years has baked dozens of delicious brownies, cookies and cakes. Also we thank **Diane Wildowsky, Bill Lavelle, Commerce Restaurant** and other unsung heroes who dropped baked goodies off at the table all day. And more special thanks to **Diane Wildowsky** and BBC Artist in Residence, **Cheryl Brock**, who together coordinated the Juried Crafts & Fine Art Fair. **Joy Hornung** and Cheryl Brock who coordinated and mc'd the entertainment.

And more special thanks to **Terri Howell**, who does everything, including soliciting this year's wonderful raffle prizes. (And we urge all BBCers to please use the enclosed list of contributors as a guide when patronizing local restaurants.)

Thanks to old friend **Bob Oliver** (and how GREAT to have Bill and Bob back again with us in the nabe — and at the Fair!) who persuaded our firefighters to hang the giant American flag over the Fair proceedings — a wonderful tradition. And thanks to **Laura Anderson**, our certified BBC Fire Marshal, who kept an eagle eye out for all. And thanks to these neighbors too, for all they did, on Fair day to make this the best Fair ever: **Alice Elliott** and her sister, **Glenn Berman, June Burden, Richard Burton, Greg and Tracy Einhorn, Bill Graziano, Sande Pisik, Ben Pitchers, Suzanne and Bruce Poli, and Rhea Sohne.**

And, again, thanks to **Cynthia Garcia**, who organized this year's Food Court and worked tirelessly



ly on Fair day keeping the vendors happy. A very difficult task, which she carried through with grace and good humor. Clearly, it takes a village — a Greenwich Village — to make Ye Olde Village Fair the wonderful event that it is.

BBCer **Fredda Seidenbaum** will be teaching outdoors at Lincoln Center's Midsummer Night Swing on Friday, July 6 at 6:15 PM for the dance by **Geno Delafosse**, one of Louisiana's top zydeco bands. Fredda's hobby has been dancing since childhood, and she's taught dance for over 20 years. Don't miss her! For more information: www.Midsummer-NightSwing.org.

BBCer **Terri Howell** has a great tip for neighbors: It's the restaurant, **Doma Na Rohu** (27 1/2 Morton Street at Seventh Avenue). It opens at 7:00 AM on weekdays, 8:00 AM on weekends, and is open till midnight every night. Says Terri, "They're a real asset and seem to really care about the neighborhood. Some comfortable local place to relax in. Rare anymore!" You get to drink real beer on tap or fine wine and to sup upon delicious grown-up food (grilled hangar steak, gulash, veggie spaetzle, saffron chicken ragu, sauteed trout . . .). Give them a try! For more information, call **212-929-4339**, Or go to www.domanyc.com. And if any of you have a great recommendation for a local eatery or business of any kind, do let us know.

Facilitating a more orderly mix of car use and short trip bicycle trips, the city recently unveiled plans for 400 new Bike-Share locations across Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. One such 35-bike-dock is planned for the south-east corner of Barrow Street, just off Hudson. The proposed Barrow Street station is planned for the street and will not take up any sidewalk space. Common to other major cities, similar bike-share programs have shown a reduction in occasional use bikes chained haphazardly to street posts — as these rarely used bikes are often abandoned once vandalized beyond use. Casual errands and short commuting bike trips are much more easily accessed thorough share programs where the safe working conditions and general upkeep of the bikes is maintained by an independent agency paid for by advertising revenue. The new NYC Bike-Share program will not cost the city a penny to setup or operate, it is being launched by a \$41 million dollar grant/advertising from CitiBank. For more details and information, go to www.nyc.gov/bikeshare



NABE NOTES

The **Greenwich House Music School** (46 Barrow St., Between Seventh Ave. and Bedford St.) announces **Tim Berne's Snakeoil**, which will inaugurate the new *Sound It Out*

concert series at GHMS. Snakeoil is the latest forward-minded ensemble led by saxophonist-composer **Tim Berne**, who was recently named no. 7 on the *Timeout New York* list of NYC's Top 25 Essential Jazz Icons. On Wednesday, June 1, Snakeoil will play one set from 8:00 - 9:00 PM, with a free meet-and-greet with the artists to follow. Admission: \$15, \$10 seniors and students. Tickets available at the door. On Wednesday, June 20, at 8:00 PM, TW&VE presents **Soft Wings** and **Liberty Sunset**. On the night of the Summer Solstice, TW&VE will perform new works by composer, songwriter, guitarist and singer **Trevor Wilson**, including selections from their March release, *Soft Wings*, and the world premiere performance of *Liberty Sunset*, a song-cycle about the displacement of a small business owner in Red Hook, Brooklyn. All are welcome free of charge. And join us for refreshments in the GHMS Garden before the show.

Join the legendary **Jane Marx** (www.nyourgoddess.com) for Free Saturday 8th Street Walking Tours, sponsored by the Village Alliance, 11:30 AM to 1 PM (starting: northeast corner of Second Avenue and St. Marks Place ending: Sixth Avenue and Milligan/Patchin Place) on June 9, June 16, July 14, July 21, August 4, August 18, September 8, 15, 22, 29. Join Jane, "the company of one who makes you laugh," who says "It would be my pleasure to see your shining countenance there."

The Cherry Lane Theatre (38 Commerce St.) announces, on The Mainstage, **WE PLAY FOR THE GODS**, presented by the Women's Project Theater, June 1-23, Monday 7:00 PM, Tuesday-Friday 8:00 PM, Saturday 3:00 PM & 8:00 PM. Written, directed and produced by the 2010-2012 WP Lab, with **Annie Golden, Amber Gray, Alexandra Henrikson, Irene Sofia Lucio & Erika Rolfsrud**. "The copier coughs. The air conditioner stutters. Your Post-It supply is running low. Don't dismiss the notion that you may be reckoning with forces divine. In the world premiere production of *WE PLAY FOR THE GODS*, four women go to work on a seemingly ordinary day only to find that a trickster god has slid through the cracks and cubicles of their office to take them on a journey to the other side of ordinary. Who knows? Today, the same could happen to you." For more information, go to WePlayForTheGods.com or call **212.352.3101**. And in The Studio, check out *THIS IS FICTION*, which runs from June 12 to June 30.

The West Village Chorale presents Summer Sings 2012. When: Mondays and Tuesdays at 7:30 PM., June, July and August. Where: Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South at Thompson St. Tickets: \$15; \$12 Seniors, \$10 Students; Season Ticket (10 sings), \$120 (Tickets for all available at door). For more information, visit www.westvillagechorale.org, or call **212.517.1776**.



Bedford Street, London, 1902

Greenwich House Pottery (Jane Hartsook Gallery, 16 Jones St.), is featuring its annual GHP Members Exhibition, which runs through June 20 and features work from artists such as: **Rene Barkett, Judy Hoffman, Gaia Starr, Judy Sager, Paula Easton, Phil Capobianco, Pamela Abrahams, Peter Barnett, Evan Mahl, David Lewis, Marilyn Silverman, Barbara Kaufman, Kathy Sykes, and Donna Goldstein.** For more information, call 212.242.4106.

Washington Square Music Festival presents its 54th season of FREE concerts. Tuesdays in July at 8:00 PM (that's July 10, 17, 24, and 31). For more information as to programs and performers, call **212.252.3621**, or go to www.washington-squaremusicfestival.org.

The Village Alliance reminds us of these significant summer Village events:

June 7, GVSHPA Annual Meeting & Village Awards Ceremony, 6:30 PM, (Tishman Auditorium), The New School (66 West 12th St., btw 5th/6th Aves.).

June 15, Films on the Green: *War of the Buttons*, 8:30 PM (Washington Square Park, Fifth Ave. @ Waverly Pl.)

June 21, *RIO + 20 + HOME: 20 Years After the UN Rio Earth Summit* 6:00 PM, Rose Auditorium, Cooper Union (41 Cooper Square, Third Ave. @ East 7th St.).

June 26 & 27, *NYU Summer Jazz Workshop in the Park*, 4:00 to 6:00 PM, Washington Square Park, Fifth Ave. @ Waverly Pl.

A HAPPY AND SAFE SUMMER TO YOU ALL,
FROM YOUR BBC!
SEE YOU IN SEPTEMBER!!

Neighborhood Notes & Notables

Gina and Gabriel Stulman (Joseph Leonard, Jeffrey's Fedora, and Perla) welcomed new son **Simon** on June 8.

Sarah Jessica Parker and Vogue editor **Anna Wintour** hosted a fundraiser for **President Obama's** re-election campaign on June 14 at Parker's Charles Street home. Admission cost \$80,000-a-head. According to the *Irish Mail*, both are fervent supporters of Barack Obama, so much so that rumours have been swirling that Wintour may be after the diplomatic post of US ambassador to London. **Michelle Obama** has said she's not anticipating a fashion face-off with either SJP or Wintour, and will be wearing "jeans and some flats," she told *TheInsider.com*.

Rosemary's has opened at the corner of Greenwich Avenue and W. 10th Street. The "rustic Italian restaurant" is growing a selection of herbs and vegetables for the menu, including thyme, sage, chives, parsley, the titular rosemary, radishes, tomatoes, and broccoli rabe on its roof.

Created by **Carlos Suarez** of BOBO (which also boasts a sweet roof), Rosemary's is named after Suarez's mother, and the menu is inspired by her home in Lucca, Italy.

Resources & Information

Bleecker Street Park's new renovation was welcomed by some, but not all. *Defenestrated* (Curbed's new architectural blog) had some choice comments, "...a catalogue of palatable-seeming stuff: picturesque gaslight-ish lamps, metal-and-wood benches that sort of look like the lovely metal-and-wood benches in Central and Prospect Parks, flower beds with low looping fencing, a couple of cement tables with chessboards built-in, a sandy patch with, during a recent visit, a handful of unchained folding chairs and a tiny folding table."

"The original park dated to 1966, the result of a multi-year tangle between a city proposal to condemn a dilapidated warehouse and public restroom then on the site, to radically widen Bleecker Street to funnel Holland Tunnel traffic from adjacent Hudson Street and 8th Avenue, and a lively consortium of locals who organized against the idea, and pushed instead for a park to accommodate an under-served population of elderly and children in what was then a considerably

less privileged part of the city. It was a very early instance of the kind of community advocacy against bombastic top-down planning that we've come to associate with the legendary urbanist and public intellectual **Jane Jacobs**, who lived thirty steps away from the park...and whose husband **Robert Jacobs**, (along with **Robert Nichols**, whose similar historic work for Washington Square Park in 1969 has been similarly destroyed by farcical renovation), was one of several local designers who contributed to envisioning what the park could be and do."

"As a cluster of nouns: benches, lights, tables, trees, the new park is indistinguishable from the old. But in its verbs and adjectives, in how it feels and what it does and what it's made of, it betrays its predecessor entirely.... The process of design is a choreography of tangible causes toward intangible effects, of motion toward emotion, of space toward spaciousness. It's esoteric yet empirical. It deploys science and art, but is emphatically neither, and is at its rare best entirely a form of public service — the means by which the world as it should be is scintillatingly yet methodically incorporated into the world as it is."

Whether or not you agree with the writer's assessment, his piece is worth reading at

http://ny.curbed.com/archives/2012/05/04/how_a_renovation_ruined_a_west_village_pocket_park.php#more

The return of summer also marks the return of **Summer Streets**. For three Saturdays (Aug. 4, 11 and 18) the city will close nearly seven miles of streets to car traffic from 7:00 AM to 1:00 PM, giving New Yorkers room to bike, walk, rollerblade, practice yoga, etc. This summer, there is a 160 foot zip line demoed in Union Square (the real one will be located at the Foley Square rest stop at Chambers Street and Centre Street).

This year's Summer Streets will feature a 25-foot climbing wall, free DOT-sponsored helmet fittings and free bike and rollerblade rentals; details about dates, streets and activities can be found on the DOT website.

Robert Ziegler of the West Village Coalition wants to see rainbow flags and a Hollywood-style walk of fame on Christopher Street "We want a walk of fame with pink triangles in the sidewalk to tell people how it all got started," he said, naming the historic 1969 riot at The Stonewall Inn, the leadership of **State Sen. Tom Duane** and the AIDS activism group ACT UP as worthy of mention within the landmark.

Ziegler said he thinks the timing of a landmarks designation this year would be right, given the enthusiasm over the AIDS memorial currently being planned for the former



St. Vincent's Triangle on Seventh Avenue at West 12th Street.

A Landmarks Preservation Commission spokeswoman said that a request for a landmarks designation would be reviewed by the commission, be the subject of a public hearing and then be voted on by both the commission and City Council. Ziegler will be collecting signatures on a petition outside Boots and Saddles (76 Christopher St.) during Gay Pride Week.
from DNA Info

Go Pop Kids is offering musical theater summer camps for children interested in learning and pursuing the arts, designed for children ages 7-12. The 3 camps will be spread across the following dates: July 9-20; July 30-August 10; and August 13-24.

Campers will create an entire musical. From brainstorming and developing a story through designing props and sets, campers will experience the full creative process that goes into original musicals. At the end of the session, campers will perform the production in front of parents and caregivers.

Camp will be held Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Westbeth Arts Brecht Forum, across the courtyard from Perry School. Extended days will also be available until 5:30 p.m.

To reserve a spot or find out more about Go Pop Kids' Musical Theater Camp, go to <http://gopopkids.com/>

Gotham Bar and Grill hosts the third annual Greenmarket to Gotham celebration raising funds for GrowNYC. The 12-week event will feature regional farms with a special \$25 two-course vegetarian prix fixe lunch. The weekly-changing menu is prepared by chefs Alfred Portale and Livio Velardo. \$1 of every meal benefits GrowNYC's public schools and educational programs. When: Starts Monday, June 11; 12 East 12th Street, New York; (212) 620-4020.