



## Bedford • Barrow • Commerce

Block Association  
46 Barrow Street • New York, NY 10014

**Please Renew!**  
**Annual Membership is (only) \$20**  
**For information, call 212.366.1451.**

### **BBC News and Views** **BBC March 2013 Meeting**

The next BBC Meeting is Wednesday, March 6 at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St.) at 7:00 PM. BBCer **Patsy Powers** (and producer) will screen

“Some Things Need To Be Said,” a documentary of the late, great painter (and our neighbor!)

**Jack Levine.** *The New York Times*, in its 2010 obituary of Levine, described him thusly: “Jack Levine [was] an unrepentant and much-admired realist artist whose crowded history paintings skewered plutocrats, crooked politicians and human folly. .



. . Mr. Levine despised abstract art and bucked the art world's movement toward it, drawing inspiration instead from old masters like Titian and Velasquez. He specialized in satiric tableaus and sharp social commentary directed at big business, political corruption, militarism and racism, with something left over for the comic spectacle of the human race.” At 6:30PM, refreshments will be served.

The next BBC meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 3. This will be a special meeting celebrating the life of **Larry Selman**. Volunteers are needed on March 30 to create poster boards for the service. Please contact **Alice Elliott** at 212.924.7151 or [elliottgirt@aol.com](mailto:elliottgirt@aol.com).

com. Volunteers are also needed on the day of the service to help serve refreshments and to make dessert donations. Please contact Kathy Donaldson at 212.366.1451 or [kathryndonaldson@aol.com](mailto:kathryndonaldson@aol.com).

### **BBC Membership Drive**

A special thanks to all our BBCers who have renewed their membership. Enclosed please find another envelope for those who haven't yet re-upped. So far, over 235 BBC members have renewed. So, for those of you who haven't, here's your chance to be part of the ultimate IN crowd!

MANY thanks to neighborhood stalwart **Jimmy Miller**, owner of Chumley's, whose generosity has helped fund much needed restoration on our local tree guards. Jimmy and Chumley's have been great friends to the BBC. We thank Jimmy so much for his support through the years, and we look forward to celebrating Chumley's eventual re-opening.

### **Nabe Notes**

Please join us for a special evening to **support Visiting Neighbors' services** and celebrate our senior artists. “Art from the Heart II.” Wednesday, March 20, 6:30-9:30 PM. Rosenthal Pavilion, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor, NYU's Kimmel Center, 60 Washington Square South at LaGuardia Place. Live Art Auction/Silent Auction.

Featuring an amazing array of arts, crafts, tickets, experiences, services and memorabilia. Wine and plentiful Hors D'Oeuvres. Live Jazz. Donation (Tax-deductible to the extent permitted by law): By March 13, \$80; at-the-door, \$100. Send checks to Visiting Neighbors, Inc., 80 Eighth Avenue, #412, New York, NY 10011. For more information: (212) 260.6200; [www.visiting-neighbors.org](http://www.visiting-neighbors.org).

**The Greenwich House Music School** (46 Barrow St., between Seventh Ave. So. & Bedford St.) announces these March events: Friday, March 8: *The Sound It Out*

Live concert series. This month features **Ches Smith**, **John Finlayson** and **Stephan Crump**. Saturday, March 9: Solo pianist **Suna Chung** performs. Saturday, March 16: The Writers Studio joins GHMS for a Special reading.

Friday, March 22: GHMS Senior Student Recital.

Saturday, March 23: Duo Piano Concert with music faculty member **German Diez**.

For tickets and further information, call 212.242.4770, or visit the Greenwich House Web site at [www.gharts.org](http://www.gharts.org).

**The Cherry Lane Theatre** (38 Commerce St.) presents, as part of its 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Mentor Project,

March 13-23, "Lawnpeople," written by **Natalia Naman**, mentored by **Eduardo Machado**, directed by **Elena Araoz**

April 3-13, "Exile," written by **Nastaran Ahmadi**, mentored by **Kia Corthron**, directed by **Lisa Peterson**.

Also, **the Rattlestick Playwrights Theater** presents, at the Cherry Lane Theatre, "The Revisionist", by **Jesse Eisenberg**, directed by **Kip Fagan**, with **Jesse Eisenberg**, **Vanessa Redgrave** (yes, you read that right!), and also featuring **Dan Oreskes**. February 15 to March 31 (Tuesday-Friday, 8 PM; Saturday at 2:00 PM & 8:00 PM and Sunday at 3:00 PM). For tickets, call OvationTix --- 866.811.4111; or visit, [www.therevisionistplay.com](http://www.therevisionistplay.com). For more information as to dates and ticket prices, phone: 212.352.3101; online: [www.cherrylanetheatre.org](http://www.cherrylanetheatre.org).

And please join us to celebrate THE 15<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE CHERRY LANE MENTOR PROJECT. Monday, March 4, 6:30 PM, Cocktails; 7:15 PM, Cherry Lane Mainstage Program; 8:00 PM. Buffet Dinner & Dancing. For more information, [iloftus@cherrylandtheatre.org](mailto:iloftus@cherrylandtheatre.org) or 212.989.2020, X 21.

**The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation** announces "The Village & All That Jazz: An Evening" at Zinc Bar. Monday, March 4, 5:30 to 8:00 PM (doors open at 5:15) 82 West 3<sup>rd</sup> Street (btw. Sullivan and Thompson Streets). GVSHP Members/\$40 Non-members.

Set at the Zinc Bar, located in the former Cinderella Club, where jazz giants like **Billie Holiday** and **Thelonious Monk** performed, this evening features music and conversation about the Vil-



lage jazz scene of the 1960s. Pianist **Joe Alterman** will perform and award-winning music critic **Gary Giddins** will explore the jazz scene of the Village, touching on his thirty years writing for *the Village Voice* as well as his personal recollections of the Village. For more information, call (212) 475.9585; (212) 475-9585, X 35.

**Historic District Council: Walking Tours**, Sunday, March 3. \$15 per tour. Space is limited, so reserve early. Meeting times and locations will be provided upon registration. To register via paypal, please visit [marbulu@hdc.org](mailto:marbulu@hdc.org). Tours: Borough Hall Skyscraper Historic District and Environs, Brooklyn; Flushing Meadows-Corona Park, Queens; Further Along the Grand Concourse, The Bronx; Grand Central Terminal and Midtown East, Manhattan; NYU and Greenwich Village, Manhattan.

## Neighborhood Notes & Notables

Unlike many celebrities who live in the Village, actor **Matthew Broderick** is not afraid to go public for a good cause. He was among more than 100 people who attended the first court hearing on February 26 for Greenwich Village groups trying to stop NYU's city-approved expansion.

Broderick, said he joins many of his neighbors in challenging the legality of the university's plans to create four new buildings on land previously used for recreation. Lawyers for 11 groups who filed a lawsuit in Manhattan State Supreme Court in September argued in court that they should be allowed to review NYU correspondence in an attempt to prove the city and state illegally approved the university's planned use of publicly owned parkland on two large blocks bordered by LaGuardia Place, Mercer Street, West Houston Street and West Third Street.

However, NYU and city lawyers argue that though the land in question has been used for recreation, it was never officially part of a city or state park. This claim is false, according to **Henry Stern**, former Parks Commissioner. Stern insists that those park strips are indeed parks, by any reasonable definition. Commissioner Stern has also pointed out - and he should know - that the City has consistently regarded those strips as parks. The only reason why they were not mapped as parkland is because NYU alone repeatedly and vigorously blocked efforts by the Parks Department to assert formal control of those four parcels.

Lawyer **Randy Mastro**, who represents the plaintiffs, said there's ample proof that the land was parkland, including the fact it was marked with Parks Department signs and the agency maintained it. "If it walks like a park and talks like a park and looks like a park — it's a park," he said.

Justice **Donna Mills** granted the plaintiffs permission to



restate their argument to review NYU documents at a future date in court. The case will be heard in court on March 20.

In case you didn't see the Academy Awards, **Anne Hathaway** name-dropped a SoHo street in her Oscar acceptance



speech Sunday, after she was awarded Best Supporting Actress for her role in "Les Misérables."

"I want to thank my friends, especially the ones who are cheering from Crosby Street tonight," she said.

The extent of Hathaway's relationship to the street isn't clear, but she held a party celebrating her engagement to actor

and jewelry designer **Adam Shulman** at Housing Works Bookstore Cafe at 126 Crosby St. in February 2012.

Bonnie Slotnick Cookbooks specializes in vintage cookbooks, which are arranged by cuisine and region and stacked to the ceiling of the cozy shop Slotnick, 58, has run for 12 years at 163 W. 10<sup>th</sup> St. "Kindles, Nooks and iPads can guide someone through making a meal, but they will never have the emotional value paper cookbooks have," said Slotnick, a Village resident of more than three decades.

"I don't think people are going to treasure their grandma's Kindle notes the way they treasure these handwritten notes," she said as she flipped through a recipe book with details scrawled at the bottom of its pages.

**F r e n c h -** trained chef Gary Barawidan, 32, said he follows 14 food blogs on his iPhone but vintage cookbooks are where he finds true inspiration.



People's constant interest in the details of domestic life in other periods is part of the appeal of old cookbooks, said Slotnick, who buys her wares from people's private collections. "It's the same reason why people like shows like 'Downton Abbey,'" she said, referring to the British drama set in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century.

*from DNAINfo*

Funnyman Will Ferrell and his family picked up a West 13<sup>th</sup> Street loft for \$4.2 million in 2010 Interior designer Shawn

Henderson got to work. He redid the kitchen and bathrooms, whitewashed the floors for a "Nordic touch," and tried in general to "brighten up the place." The renovation is can be seen in the March issue of *Architectural Digest*.



## Resources & Information

A section of Grove Street may be closed to traffic for a portion of every weekday for use as a make-shift P.S. 3 playground, but residents who live on the affected block are virtually unanimous in saying they wish the school would keep its kids on its own property.

The public school's request for the creation of a "play street" on Grove Street between Bedford and Hudson streets has gained Community Board 2 support despite concerns from neighbors about noise and potential liability in the event that a child is injured on private property.

With a single abstention to an otherwise unanimous vote, CB2 approved P.S. 3's play street request Thursday night on a one-year trial basis, citing the school's need for additional outdoor recreation room because of overcrowding. This section of Grove Street has been used for this purpose in the past on a temporary basis. Neighbors objected to excessive noise, an uptick in trash, damage to trees and plantings and intrusions by students on private property.

Grove Street Block Association president Eric Weigel also worried about new noise on the block and said legal stipulations related to liability need to be clearer. "It only takes one kid to get injured," he said.

The school, which according to Department of Education figures is 8 percent over its capacity, was recently forced to convert its gym into a cafeteria so kids don't have to eat lunch too early or too late. Its rooftop playground is no longer enough.

The city's Play Streets program is a joint initiative by the city departments of health and transportation that aims to combat the childhood obesity epidemic, according to its

website. To be eligible to become a play street, a street must run only one way, have little to no traffic, be next door to a school and not be designated as a bus, truck or fire route. P.S. 3 appears to meet these requirements.

In order for the play street to be designated, P.S. 3 will need additional approvals from the 6<sup>th</sup> Precinct, the Health Department and the Transportation Department.

Put away your Kindle. A rare book fair returned to the West Village for its 34<sup>th</sup> year on the first week-end in March. The Greenwich Village Antiquarian Book Fair brought more than 50 book dealers to P.S. 3 with all proceeds benefiting the school.

A spokeswoman for the fair said, “The fair is of interest to the general public [for] its accessibility and variety”, noting that her 13-year-old son had been delighted to find vintage baseball magazines.

The antique books at the fair this year included a copy of the first American edition of the 1881 Henry James novel “The Portrait of a Lady.” Available for \$750, the book bound in dark brown cloth has gold details, floral endpapers and the original owner’s notes made in pencil and dated December 1882.

A flier for an 1853 performance of “Hamlet” at the Broadway Theater was also on sale.

## Old News

### GREENWICH VILLAGE STIRS JUDGE’S IRE

An effort to uphold the name of the old Ninth Ward by driving from its confines the types that are bringing ridicule upon Greenwich Village was urged by Municipal Court Justice William J. A. Caffrey at a dinner of the Neighborhood Council of Greenwich House, 27 Barrow Street, last night. Justice Caffrey attacked the landlords, who, for a little more money, he said, dispossess conservative families and substitute those “who are a burlesque on womanhood and caricatures on true manhood.”

United States District Court Judge Augustus N. Hand, also a “villager” regarded the

*Justice Augustus Noble Hand*



presence of the “disagreeables” as only temporary and said “they ought not to be taken more seriously than they take themselves.”

“The types of people,” said Justice Caffrey, “who have come to this locality in droves in recent times have not added to the good name and fame of this neighborhood not to it substantial popularity, but rather have caused us to be subjects of reportorial sarcasm and editorial jokes. We feel we should not be scorner for the evil doing of the small of recent importations.

“The majority of Greenwich Villagers are the kind that you see here tonight, a law-abiding, safe, sane, clean, God-fearing people. What we should unite to do is to see that the group that is causing us to be the objects of scorn and contempt be driven from our community.

“No amount of intellectuality is going to atone for the condition of those unconservative people. The fact that intellectuality stands out in certain quarters means nothing. What we want is a safe, sound, conservative type of average man and woman. We have got to fight for it so that the very foundation of the old Ninth Ward will not crumble.

He spoke of the number of outsiders who look upon the community as a curiosity and asserted it will grow worse and worse so long as it permits women walking through the streets to smoke cigarettes.” He admitted, however, that perhaps “some very eminent people will not believe with me in this regard.” He said it was a common sight to see women smoking on the streets in daylight.

“Will you tell me why in Heaven’s name the women shall not smoke cigarettes if man does,” asked Health Commissioner Copeland. “My contention is that woman has exactly the same right and privilege to do anything on this earth that man can. Personally, however, I don’t approve of them smoking cigarettes. But if the women want to, God bless their souls, let ‘em.”

E.A. G. Intermann, Chairman of the Council, proposed Justice Caffrey to consider the situation.

*from the New York Times, May 12, 1922*

*Augustus Noble Hand (July 26, 1869 – October 28, 1954) was an American judge who served on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York and later on the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. His most notable rulings restricted the reach of obscenity statutes in the areas of literature and contraceptives in the case of United States v. One Package, 86 F.2d 737 (2d Cir. 1934), in which he ruled that contraceptives, when imported by a licensed physician, were not immoral or obscene devices banned under the Comstock Law provisions incorporated into the Tariff Act of 1930. He was the older first cousin of famed judge Learned Hand, who himself served on both courts during most of Augustus Hand’s tenure at each.*