



The Waverly Bank 11 Neighbors

20 Bank Street
NY, NY 10014

DECEMBER, 2006

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The WB11 Neighbors meets on **Monday, Jan. 8, 6:00pm** in the garden of Ye Waverly Inn (enter through the garden, not the restaurant.) Light refreshments will be served courtesy of the Inn. Topics: street beautification, including plantings, possible restoration of the Bank Street cobblestones, street lights for West 11th Street, parked and abandoned bicycles, etc.

Since 2007 dues are payable, please be sure your membership is up to date; votes may be taken on issues. Although someone will be at the door to collect dues, sending in your membership coupon (on the last page) ahead of time makes it easier for us. Everyone is welcome, the more active the better. Since this space is available courtesy of the "hottest" restaurant in New York, we need to be respectful and avoid sight seers.

Supporting the WB11 shows your commitment to the neighborhood. The WB11 can not exist without your financial support and participation.

Thank you and happy holidays!

Neighborhood Alert

A 123 Bank Street resident was mugged on the evening of December 5 as he entered his vestibule. He was attacked from behind by two guys with brass knuckles about 11:30pm and beaten badly. When he returned from the hospital, they had ransacked his apartment from top to bottom....and had a gigantic kitchen knife waiting on a chair right by the door should he have walked in on them. It's likely these guys are gonna "work" the neighborhood again, since the first time was successful. Please be careful and warn your friends!

New and Newsworthy

by Marilyn Dorato

Two new restaurants have opened in our area. Both Cafe Cluny and Ye Waverly Inn held meetings with residents prior to their openings to address potential concerns. As usual noise and traffic issues topped the list. In the discussion at the Inn, garbage concerns were also noted.

Cafe Cluny has developed a neighborhood following; most patrons walk there so cars

aren't a problem. The Inn has been extensively covered in the media....reportedly, it's semi-open. The garden, formerly open air with a roll away canvas roof, is now permanently plexi-glass enclosed. The owners promised to work on the garden enclosure until no noise emanates from it to disturb the neighbors.

Neighbors have been concerned about replacing the large tree that was felled this summer by a storm. Speaker Christine Quinn's office has committed to expediting replacement of the tree once the proper procedures have been followed.

On the north side of Bank between West 4th and Bleecker Streets a sidewalk section had heaved because of tree roots, cracking dangerously. This condition caught the eye of Annette Zaner who followed up with pertinent agencies; the roots were cut and the sidewalk repaired...not perfect, but a big improvement. Annette deserves everyone's thanks; it's easy to complain, but few people get such a nuisance corrected.

Joanne and Darren Overty have moved from 18 Bank Street to expansive digs on West 11th Street. The former inhabitant of their new home "endeared" herself to her neighbors by throwing regular rowdy parties oft punctuated with fireworks (not kidding).

Congratulations to WB11 poet laureate George Held. Two poems from his new chapbook *W IS FOR WAR* (Cervena Barva Press, 2006) are nominated for a Pushcart Prize. He also participated in a reading at the National Arts Club on December 13.

The memorial plaque honoring Bill Bowser has been installed on the lamppost near his home on Bank Street.

An MTA nightmare may be headed our way. The MTA plans to build a vent for the 7th Avenue IRT; the lot at the corner of 7th and Greenwich seems ideal to them. For details, read the GVBA News at www.gvba.org. The worst case scenario may result in a four story structure replacing the empty lot - after a lengthy construction period. Work at West 13th Street took more than four years.

On June 5, 2006, the residents of 227 West 11th Street celebrated the building's 100th year birth date. According to the Greenwich Village Historic District Report by the Landmarks Preservation Commission (April 1969): "This six-story apartment house of 1906, which replaced two town houses, part of the Peet row of ten, was designed by Charles M. Straub for Sugarman & Adelstein." The building was once part of a row of ten late Greek revival houses, which were built for Stephen B. Peet in 1844. The remaining townhouses are still currently located at 223-225 and 231-233. Like these houses, the building was once a three-story townhouse, with a basement. Residents enjoyed a pot-luck dinner with music provided by "Metro Tang," a Latin Jazz trio lead by building resident Chacho Ramirez. Happy Birthday!

Neighborhood Notes & Notables

The December 6 *Stephen Colbert Show* on Comedy Central featured NYU's President **John Sexton** plugging the latest edition of his *Civil Procedures*. Flat witted in a forum he didn't control (like his Town Hall style meetings), Sexton wanted "to defend knowledge and learning" and advised Colbert to "be all you can be." He added, "There is a disease abreast in the land of people using slogans too much. Gee whiz! How profound! Colbert as always was Colbert.

Thanks to the funding and initiative of **City Council Speaker Christine Quinn**, residents and business owners in the West Village will soon notice a big improvement in their neighborhood. The ever popular and constantly busy area, filled with trendy restaurants, shops and living spaces will soon be kept litter-free through the hard work of men who used to be living on some of these same streets and are now getting their lives back on track by cleaning them through **The Doe Fund's** acclaimed *Ready Willing & Able* initiative. The Doe Fund is a non-profit homeless service organization that provides permanent solutions to homelessness through paid work and a host of other social services. In order to start up services, they need to secure a storage space for the crew's equipment. It doesn't need to be big - enough room for 4 of the rolling buckets the men push, 4 brooms and a small box of bags. The staff will canvass the area to see if we can identify a property owner willing to let us use a space. If you have a suggestion, get in touch with the GVBA at gvba10014@nyc.rr.com and we'll pass it along.

Ever read the **Approval Matrix** in *New York Magazine* - Highbrow, Lowbrow, Brilliant, Despicable? Now, you can see how your opinion stacks up. Go to <http://nymag.com/approvalmatrix/> to play.

People magazine executive editor **Jeannie Park** bought the townhouse at 109 Waverly Place for 5.1 million. The town-

Bernard "Jack" Heineman, Jr., died on November 5 at his Bank Street home at the age of 82. According to *The Villager*, his mother, a member of the Morgenthau family, called him Jack in memory of her brother who had died. Apart from various community activities, Jack had served in World War II in the 6th Armored Division, part of Patton's Third Army and received two silver and two bronze stars.

He was able to retire from corporate activity in his 40s. As an art collector, he focused on the Ashcan School. Earlier in his life he helped his father with his collection of moths and butterflies; more than 7,000 specimens that Jack helped to assemble were eventually donated to a museum. On a butterfly hunt in India he met his future wife, Ruth Kress. They were married in 1955; she died in 1998 of cancer.

Funeral services were held at St. John's on Nov.10. A eulogy by Mark Schmidek told how Jack's father, with support from his wife and children, had sponsored the Schmidek family in their escape from Nazi Germany. Schmidek's mother's maiden name was Heineman; his family had written Bernard Sr. hoping they were relatives. They were not related, but the American Heinemans signed an affidavit indicating they were; the Schmideks escaped the Holocaust as a result.

In addition to his children, Deborah, Matthew and Steven, and their spouses, Jack is survived by two brothers, William and Andrew as well as six grandchildren. The family suggests that those wishing to honor his memory send contributions to St. Vincent's Hospital or Williams College.

house is split into six apartments and an owner's duplex. Reportedly, there is one rent-controlled unit and three rent-stabilized units which accounts for the low price tag.

After browsing around the Village, **Mischa Barton** (formerly of the OC) lunched at **Tea and Sympathy** (long standing cool place) on Greenwich Avenue with her boyfriend, long haired rocker **Cisco Adler** on December 7.

On November 18 three Englishmen dressed like **Robin Hood and his merry men went to Washington Square Park** to throw a thousand dollars into the air. *The New York Post* took a negative view and slammed the do gooders.

"As the small bills rained down, parkgoers pushed and punched each other in a frenzy of greed. Even young children got stepped on as the would-be do-gooders' effort to spread joy went terribly awry.....The ...merry pranksters, who call themselves the Modern Day Robin Hoods and are based in Sheffield, England, said they hoped their prank would inject some civility into the city's ill-mannered ways...."I want people to have a little more



Memorial statue of Robin Hood in Nottingham.

common courtesy towards their fellow human beings,” said Oliver, the group’s founder.

As the trio - two dressed in green Robin Hood gear, and another in brown Little John garb - entered the park, one grabbed a bullhorn: “What you are about to see will amaze you. We are mad Englishmen.”

The team was speechless... after reading *the Post’s* put-down. They had a video proving everybody was in great spirits. “Nobody was hurt, only our bank balance so why would a recognised paper take this angle?”

“We’ve had to cancel the second stunt and will probably leave New York for another country.”

“This is likely to turn into a heated debate but this first stunt was only to grab a little attention towards the bigger picture, we have so much more planned and we all hope we have the opportunity to achieve our goals.”

Flora Morrell who owned 28 Grove Street since the early 1940s passed away in 2003. Among her tenants was actor **Fisher Stevens** — once married to **Michelle Pfeiffer** — who founded *the Naked Angels Theater Company*. Ms. Morell’s will gave Stevens “the right of first refusal” when the building was sold. He had ten days to match any offer to purchase it. New owner **Roberta McGuire** sighed in relief when Stevens passed up the chance. She plans major renovations; an elevator and to extend the building 10 feet into the garden. One former tenant was actress **Kim Hunter** when she appeared in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. Ms. Hunter’s husband, **Robert Emmett**, fed up by fans screaming “Stella!” as they passed the building, looked for a rear apartment when the couple relocated....as they did to the Cherry Lane Building on Commerce Street.

Hilary Swank and Chad Lowe sold their Charles Street home. They paid \$3.9 million for it in 2002 and listed it for \$8.25 million in June. In August, the price was cut to \$8.175 million. then to \$7.55. The ex-couple spent 26 months redoing the interior with a makeover in the *New York Times*. Swank described the house and her relationship, as a “work in progress.” Swank is filming the comedy *P.S. I Love You* in NYC. Lowe guest stars in the upcoming season of *24*.

Rattlestick Playwrights Theater (244 Waverly Place) presents *Dark Matters*, a play by **Roberto Aguirre-Sacasa**, *Dark Matters* is a taut thriller about the terrible cost of believing the unbelievable....*Something is happening to the Cleary family. A woman disappears, then returns talking of otherworldly beings. Is she lying? Or are even darker forces at work, threatening to destroy a family already on the brink of falling apart? The cast includes: Reed Birney, Justin Chatwin, Michael Cullen (Bug) and Elizabeth Marvel.*

Apparently, **Christopher Street** isn’t the only street with “street youth” problems. A neighbor at the corner of West 4th and Bank Streets witnessed a “riot” the night of

Thursday, October 12. He heard yelling (nothing unusual) and didn’t think anything about it until it didn’t stop. When he looked out of his window, about 15 young guys (Wall Street types) were fighting. A police car arrived immediately and tried to break it up. Then about six more police units arrived as well as an ambulance. Several young men were handcuffed and taken away. He was surprised that this event was not reported in *The Villager*.

Old News

Two modest homes characteristic of old... Greenwich Village days will be among the five structures to be demolished on the westerly Hudson Street blockfront between Leroy and Morton Streets for the nine-story building planned for the General Dyestuff Corporation... That deal also served to call attention to two eminent New York citizens of former days whose names have been given to Leroy and Morton Streets.

The first named street was named in honor of Jacob Leroy, a prominent shipping merchant whose family came to this country early in the 18th century following the persecution of the Huguenots in France. Jacob Leroy died in 1791. He married two sisters of Anthony Rutgers. The name of one...has been given to Cornelia Street, a crooked little thoroughfare jutting off from 4th Street just west of 6th Avenue.

Jacob Leroy for many years was a vestryman of Trinity Church and his town home was in lower Broadway not far from the palatial home of his brother, Herman Leroy, at 7 Broadway... one of the city’s leading merchants.

Morton Street commemorates...Major Gen. Jacob Morton, whose military title was derived as commander for more than twenty-five years of the First Division of the New York State Militia... when George Washington arrived in New York in April, 1789 to be inaugurated first President of the United States, General Morton, then Major Morton, was a member of the committee headed by Colonel Morgan Lewis which welcomed Washington as he landed at the foot of Murray’s Wharf, on the North River in the lower part of the city.

...Morton was a very picturesque figure in the social life of the city...after the Revolution and during the years of its rapid growth until the time of his death about 1835. He married in 1791 Catharine Ludlow, daughter of Carey Ludlow, a wealthy merchant and...fell heir to the Ludlow homestead in State Street, opposite the Battery. The Mortons gave a grand ball there in honor of Lafayette soon after he arrived in New York on his famous visit in 1824.

Gen. Morton was punctilious in his dress and when he appeared in his elaborate military regalia, mounted on a spirited horse, to review the militia on the old Battery parade field, the entire town...turned out to honor the general and his band of fine looking warriors...one of the

incorporators of the New York public school system in 1808 and served on many...civic committees.

When Morton and Leroy Streets were laid out, early in the last century, Greenwich Village was undergoing a marked development. The large country homes with their ample gardens were being cut up into building plots and hundreds of the well-known homes with their quaint dormer roofs were built at that time. The great industrial development...in the westerly Greenwich Village area twenty-five years ago...wiped out scores of these houses and many others gave way for the 7th Avenue extension in 1913 followed recently by the extensive wreckage caused by the 6th Avenue extension.

The two houses to be razed for the American Dyestuff Building are those at 107 and 109 Leroy Street, each fronting twenty feet... probably erected from 75 to 100 years ago...two additional...landmarks will join the large number which have given way to meet the insistent demands of trade interests...

In the Morton Street block east of Hudson Street, extending to Seventh Avenue South, are several survivors of the simple homes which were so numerous in Greenwich Village a century ago. This block, notwithstanding the sharp angle it makes just before reaching the 7th Avenue extension, was for many years one of the best known thoroughfares in the village. On the Bedford and Morton Street corner the original wooden building of the Bedford Street Methodist Church was erected in 1810, which was replaced in 1840 with a dignified red brick edifice. When destroyed in 1914 for the widening of the

the 7th Avenue extension hundreds of old-time Greenwich Village residents felt that they had lost one of the best known landmarks in the neighborhood. *The New York Times*, Jan. 19, 1936



...Prior to the time of his election, those who held control of government did so by might and/or heredity...Washington had served as the leader in the Revolutionary War, but rather than grabbing the reigns of power... (he) returned home to lead a quiet life. His humility made him the appropriate choice to lead the fledgling nation; when word arrived at Mount Vernon that he had been chosen for this position, he ... followed the call of "duty" and proceeded...to New York to become 'President'.

He traveled by horseback along a route marked by a huge outpouring of affection by the citizenry (roads on which he rode would bear markers noting his passage to that great event). The trip was punctuated by applause, parades, fireworks and huge banquets culminating in a grand parade through New York...

As Washington was about to be sworn in, he asked for a Bible on which to take his oath of office.... no one thought about this matter.... New York Chancellor Robert R. Livingston who was also the Grand Master of New York Freemasonry knew there would be one in the Lodge Room of St. John's Lodge #1 a few yards away. The Parade Grand Marshal, General Jacob Morton, was the Worshipful Master of that lodge and was dispatched to obtain the Bible.... When he returned, events proceeded and the country had its first President ...

As the oath concluded, Gen. Morton turned down the corner of the page on which Washington's left hand had rested. A silk ribbon was inserted to mark the place....since that time, the Bible has been known as the "Washington Bible"...

This national treasure was nearly destroyed on September 11, 2001 when the World Trade Towers...were attacked by terrorists. The Bible had been on loan from St. John's Lodge #1 for an exhibit in the Faunces Tavern Museum...Two days later, Brother Tom Savini, Director of the Chancellor Robert R. Livingston Masonic Library and Museum was taken under special escort to Faunces Tavern Museum to recover the Washington Bible....

...Three other presidents have used it for their inauguration; it was to be used at that of George Walker Bush, following in the footsteps of his father, President George Herbert Walker Bush...inclement weather caused a last minute cancellation in order not to expose this irreplaceable treasure to the elements. The Bible does not travel by air; only by land so as to minimize the potential for damage. It travels only in the presence of three members of St. John's Lodge.

Resources & Information

The latest chatter about **St. Vincent's white building** (the former Maritime Union) at 7th Ave. between 12th and 13th: it's for sale. Reportedly, Massey Knakal's doing the shopping, and financially strapped St. Vincent's is planning to trade development rights. The building lies within the the Greenwich Village Historic District but is not an individual landmark; its worthiness is in the eye of the beholder. Landmarks could declare the building is non-contributing and allow demolition.

The "**Emergency Exits**" at subway stations with the panic bars are inevitably the ones that people with big packages or strollers often use, whether with help from a station agent or just setting off the "WEE!! WEE!! alarm? That kind of usage is causing the alarms to break down and malfunction.

The Emergency Exits were designed as emergency exits for the High Entrance-Exit Turnstiles (the "Iron Maiden" turnstiles; since the HEETs are more cumbersome); riders use them so much that now their alarms will go off randomly. The Straphangers Campaign suggests that the MTA embark on a public awareness campaign to explain what the panic bars mean. The Emergency Exits were added last

year...you need permission to use them. *Gothamist*

First the hawks, now the parrots checking out Manhattan real estate. Are they East Coast parrots (Brooklyn) or West Coast parrots (New Jersey)? The **Monk Parrot colony** is on Amsterdam Avenue at 103rd Street. Urban Hawk speculates: The closest colony to Amsterdam Avenue, is in Edgewater, New Jersey. If a bird flew directly across the Hudson River it would arrive at around 138th and Riverside Drive going over the water for about a mile. Do Monk Parakeets fly over large bodies of water? The birds have been seen in Central Park, at the 79th St. Boat Basin and on Riverside Drive this summer. The nearest Brooklyn colony is in Red Hook. From whence did they come and are they here to stay? For photos go to Palemaleirregulars at <http://palemaleirregulars.blogspot.com/2006/12/monks-watch-dog-and-off-lead-right.html>



Jeff Vandam's piece *For Want of an 'L'* in the New York Times (Dec. 3) revealed an anomaly in the information for each property listed with the NYC's Department of Buildings (DOB), there are arcane, but significant, references. A building may be "Little E Restricted" or "UB Restricted." It may have a grandfathered sign.

The Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation (GVSHP) found that a number of landmark buildings have been improperly identified. After conducting a survey of the Greenwich Village Historic District, GVSHP found that 337 of the 2,200 buildings had not been given the notation "L — Landmark" to indicate that a building is a protected property. In theory, nothing prevented them from being altered or torn down.

The problem was noticed after the Gansevoort Market Historic District was established in 2003. Many properties in the new district were given the "L" in the city's Buildings Information System; not all were. In one case, a billboard was installed on a Little West 12th Street building.

Among the buildings not properly identified as landmarks were the row of 1840s Greek Revival houses along Washington Square North. Along West 11th Street, 28 buildings were not properly identified, nor were 18 of 25 residences on Washington Mews.

After receiving a list of the properties, the Landmarks Preservation Commission said all of them had since been properly designated. The (DOB) said it was working to correct the problem. Random checks of historic districts elsewhere in the city confirm that the problem exists elsewhere. The problem, said **Simeon Bankoff**, executive director of

the **Historic Districts Council** often lies with the Buildings Information System, which is not necessarily equipped to handle streets and addresses from centuries past.

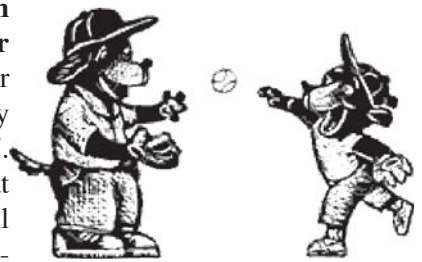
Michael Campbell, the CEO of No. 1 movie chain Regal Entertainment (542 theaters) feels your pain when someone in the front row yaps on his cellphone ruining your night out. Regal had developed a discreet solution and will install a four-buzzer remote signal system in 25 test markets to alert ushers to potential problems. "We've had people assaulted with bats, knives, guns - people wait for you outside," Campbell says. "We're trying to take the liabilities, that exposure, away from the customers." The system can alert Regal staff to problems with picture and sound, disruptions from inside the theater, temperature issues, etc. If it tests well, Regal will consider rolling it out nationwide early next year.

On December 5 the production company for *P.S. I Love You* filmed in the Meat Market. As a thank you to the community, they offered free coffee at the Starbucks near W. 12th and W.13th Streets between 12:00 noon and 3:00pm. Only 20 (approximately) people live in the vicinity so the friendly gesture wasn't received by residents and Starbucks probably gave out free coffee to tourists and shoppers, not Villagers, but....FYI.

The Merchant's House Museum offers its holiday events. "To All, Wassail": A Concert of 19th-Century Holiday Songs and Stories (Sun., December 17, 5:30 pm) The Bond Street Euterpean Singing Society will present a concert of vocal quartets, solos, holiday readings and sing-alongs. A wassail reception to meet the artists will follow. \$10, \$5 Seniors & Children, FREE for Members.

If your dog needs something to do — and you do too — the **Animal Haven**

Soho Adoption Center on Centre Street near Broome offers agility classes. 212.414.9597. Classes are pricey at \$350 for six, but they'll get your city pup moving and happy. Experts says agility training is a confidence booster for the timid dog.



According to *the New York Times* (November 19) the **New York Public Library** (NYPL) claimed three years ago it had financial problems. The NYPL sold an apartment it owned for nearly \$3 million and auctioned 18 works of art from its collection for \$52 million. It reduced its employee tuition assistance program.

The financial ills were not reflected in the compensation received by some NYPL officers. The total, including salary

and perks, for **Paul LeClerc**, the NYPL's chief executive, had increased to more than \$800,000, a jump of more than \$221,000 from the previous year. **Susan Kent**, the director and chief executive of the branch libraries, got a package of \$302,484, about \$59,200 more than her predecessor. LeClerc and Kent were responsible for the Jefferson Market Library's controversial interior redesign plan against the community's wishes.

The NYPL has a budget of about \$300 million and an endowment of around \$660 million. LeClerc and other officers had recently received further enhancements to their compensation; what they are was not reported. LeClerc is not paid from public funds, library officials say.

Salary defenders contend that the marketplace dictates such costs. Others complain that the lucrative pay — while opaque to donors of all sizes — has become excessive. Little information about negotiations or hirings is made readily available to the public or to the NYPL's many donors.

Art experts argue that selling artwork, including the library's star painting, "Kindred Spirits," an 1849 Hudson River School **Asher B. Durand** landscape, was akin to jettisoning part of the city's cultural patrimony. Prices that some of the art brought were less than their estimated value. The NYPL said that art had never been its major emphasis and that it was not a museum.

Lynn Taylor, president of local 1930 of the New York Public Library Guild, representing 1,700 NYPL workers doesn't like the reductions in the tuition assistance program. The union has filed a grievance with the NYPL.

The 45-story **Trump SoHo Hotel Condominium** seems closer to get the go-ahead in some form. The Donald — or the group he's fronting — is establishing a foothold below Houston. As usual, superlatives abound: it will be the tallest building between 23rd Street and the financial district; David Rockwell will design; there'll be rooftop cabanas; it'll be yooge. A hotel condominium is what you build when you want to build condos but zoning allows you to build only a "transient" hotel. The "yooge" pile will be an apartment building but called something else — owners may rent out their units like hotel rooms. This gambit irks neighbors, who aren't thrilled about the monstrosity's arrival in a "low-slung" neighborhood. The Buildings Department may restrict owners to only 100 or 150 days of occupancy a year but it seems a pyrrhic victory. Its final form is not clear, but there are clearly holes in the zoning laws that need to be addressed. *New York Magazine*

The maker of **M&M** candies has teamed up with the **Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation** to raise funds through the sale of their new "pink & white" M&M candies. For each 8-ounce bag of the special candies sold, the makers of M&M (Masterfoods) will donate 50 cents to

the foundation. The next time you want a treat, please pick up a bag (now sold in stores nationwide) — you will be donating to a great cause and satisfying your sweet tooth. Just think...If each of us buy one bag or two.... how much will be donated. Buy a bag for a friend.

The Breast Cancer site is having trouble getting enough people to click on their site daily to meet their quota of donating at least one free mammogram a day to an underprivileged woman. It takes less than a minute to go to their site and click on "donating a mammogram" for free (pink window in the middle) This doesn't cost you a thing. Their corporate sponsors/advertisers use the number of daily visits to donate mammogram in exchange for advertising. Here's the web site! Pass it along to people you know. <http://www.thebreastcancersite.com>

For dog lovers — there may be good news on the horizon for the **treatment of canine cancer**. An experimental drug called curcumin has shown success in treating mast cell tumors in cell culture and other types of cancer in mice. This is the yellow in tumeric, a spice found in curry powder. It both cuts off the blood supply to the growing tumor as well as causes tumor cell death. Care in giving the appropriate dose is essential. The drug is available over the counter through health food stores and is labeled "tumeric".

The drug has no apparent side effects. The folks at **Emory Medical School** plan a study of another compound, a curcumin that has been modified so more is absorbed orally, in dogs with mast cell cancer. This technology is being developed by a company called **Curry Pharmaceuticals**. Anyone interested should contact **Dr. Jack Arbiser at Emory**.

The **Mayor's Office of Film, Theater and Broadcasting** has produced *Scenes from the City: Filmmaking in New York*. Containing 250 photos of people like **Al Pacino, Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman** with comments from folks like **Tim Robbins and Signey Lumet**. "In New York, you find locations that not only give you what you need, but with a little luck more than what you need." Contributors include **Martin Scorsese, John Cassevtes, Woody Allen and Nora Ephron**. In 1965 only eleven movies shot in NYC. This year more than 31, 570 filmed here....half of them in Greenwich Village....just kidding, although it sometimes seems like it.

The James Beard Foundation proposes an honorary street renaming for West 12th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues. This block was home to James Beard for more than 20 years and has been home to the James Beard Foundation for 20

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**November 29, 2006 Sixth Precinct
Community Council Meeting — Abridged Notes**

Calvin Solomon / Manhattan District Attorney's Office:

Distributed *Holiday Safety Tips* brochure and newsletter prepared by the high school summer interns in the Manhattan District Attorney's Office. Reminded interested residents experiencing drug activity or unauthorized people roaming their building to speak with him about the Trespass Affidavit Program.

Reported that the District Attorney's Recidivist Program went into operation. Two individuals within 6th Precinct jurisdiction were arrested for prostitution: For the November 18 arrest, DA requested 60 incarceration, judge handed down three days jail time. For the November 28 arrest, DA requested 45 day incarceration, judge handed down twenty days jail time.

Captain Caroli: Announced that year-to-date, all crime statistics are down 59%, except for felony assault (18% rise). Cabaret Unit officers are deployed to Christopher Street patrolling to add to manpower levels during the problematic weekends. Eight to ten officers are slotted for that beat from West Street along to 7th Avenue and West 4th Street to 6th Avenue. During the holiday shopping season, there will be a larger police presence in the shopping districts: Bleecker, Christopher, 6th Avenue, West 4th and 8th Streets.

Bank Street: Thanked Precinct for prompt response to an intruder who gained access to his building after doorman left his post. Asked if new information was available about the murder of a tenant at 15 Abingdon Square. Caroli replied: The murderer confessed and is behind bars; more information he cannot divulge, as the investigation is ongoing. Graffiti is rampant in his neighborhood. He has signed up for the US Postal Service Paint Program. This allows citizen groups to get free paint for the blue mail boxes and the green relay boxes to cover over graffiti. Interested persons should see him after the meeting for information.

Bleecker Street: Drug dealing is intensifying in front of Duane Reade and PriceWise; also at Thompson and West 3rd Streets near the chess store. Casey replied: The Precinct's Street Narcotics Unit have made several arrests there. Believes the increased dealing is due to displacement from Washington Square Park due to police surveillance. A dealer was found to be selling fake drugs and was not in possession of a controlled substance, so received a couple of days in jail. Graffiti is appearing on Sullivan Street within the historic landmark district. Parking signs are also being vandalized. Casey replied: The 6th Precinct has the distinction of making the highest level of graffiti arrests since the Mayor's initiative began. Asked if there was an update on the 23-year-old woman who was reported in the newspaper and TV as abducted around 1:30 am on Nov. 19 from LaGuardia Place and Bleecker Street, raped and left on the east side of midtown Manhattan. Caroli replied: Investigation is still ongoing; no arrest has been made.

Bleecker Street: Asked if the Precinct is a drop off location for the Annual Coat Drive this year. The coat drive begins December 1. Reported that the 6th Precinct coat drop off was the third most successful in the city last year.

Bleecker Street: 11/2 weeks ago, while walking along the sidewalk, a parked bicycle rolled over and injured his achilles tendon. The bicycle owner came out of a coffee shop and yelled

at him, "What did you do to my bike," and rode away on the sidewalk (not the street) when he was asked to stay until a police officer could be summoned. Mentioned that on way to the Community Council meeting this evening, he observed a cyclist weaving between pedestrians crossing the street on 6th Avenue pedaling against traffic. Asked police to reinstitute the 6th Precinct's Bicycle Patrol. Noted that vehicles are failing to yield to pedestrians in the crosswalks on both 7th and 6th Avenues.

Jones Street: Drug activity at West 4th Streets and 6th Avenue between the hours of 4:30 to 5:00 am. Reported that dealing in the area is expanding to as late as 10:00am. Casey replied: Admittedly the area is a problem spot. Commented that a uniform presence is on the block until 2:00 am on Tues., Wednes. and Thurs. and weekends until 5:00am. The Street Narcotics Unit team's hours of operation are being changed to counter the change in the hours the dealers conduct business. Manhattan South Narcotics Unit has undercover police in the area. The Precinct is increasing foot patrol during the holidays. Call police from the safety of home. DO NOT make yourself an obvious target by talking to the dealers or calling police from a cell phone on the street. Be accurate in description of activity, location and persons involved. Local police are well-known by the dealers. Precinct officers must stake out the scene of action in unmarked cars; but they also request the public volunteer to provide observation spots from local buildings and rooftops.

MacDougal Street: Gave report from the Nominations Committee to nominate candidates to the Community Council for the next two years, tenures commencing January 2007. The slate of officers are: **Maureen Remacle, Chair** (Bleecker Street resident); **Jennifer Kay, Vice Chair** (West 4th Street merchant); **Rosemary C. Bella, Recording Secretary**, (Bleecker Street resident); **Venisa Ustynoski, Treasurer** (Carmine Street resident). Announced there has been some slight improvement in the noise factor emanating from Slane on MacDougal Street, due to Cabaret Unit enforcement. The situation needs constant attention.

West 12th Street: Asked for more details about the 18% increase in felony assaults. Casey replied: Most of the assaults occur between 11:00 pm and 7:00 am in areas where bars and restaurants are clustered. Reported he was assaulted in his apartment building, called police and went to station house; but no report was taken. When the speaker refused to supply details and repeatedly refused to cede the floor, he was asked to discuss the matter with Captain Caroli after the meeting.

Unidentified speaker: Complained about the 6th Avenue street vendors: woman selling jewelry at Golden Swan Park, scarf merchant, and book sellers storing their merchandise overnight on top of the telephone booths. Casey replied: The vending situation on 6th Avenue below 8th Street is getting worse. On four recent occasions police have removed bags of books from the telephone kiosks.

Unidentified speaker: Complained about the noise at Grove and Bleecker Streets caused by the patrons of 49 Grove from Thursday to Sunday. Police have responded to the situation by car and on foot several times recently. The patrons on the sidewalk—sometimes are as many as thirty-five—are young and very drunk. Caroli replied: He has spoken to the owners and they seemed amenable to working with the community.

more. The Foundation hopes to make an announcement in time for its 20th anniversary on November 5th.

James Beard (May 5, 1903 – January 21, 1985) was an American chef and food writer. His family operated a small hotel in the Pacific Northwest. Trained as a singer and actor, he moved to New York City in 1937 but had little luck in the theater. He and a friend opened a catering company, "Hors D'Oeuvre" and Beard published his first cookbook, *Hors D'Oeuvre and Canapes*. World War II rationing difficulties ended this business. In 1946 Beard appeared on the first televised cooking show, *I Love to Eat* on NBC and began his rise as an eminent American food authority.



James Beard is often recognized as the father of American gastronomy. After his death in 1985, Julia Child had the idea to preserve his home as the gathering place it was throughout his life. Peter Kump, a former student of Beard's and the founder of the Institute of Culinary Education spear-

headed the effort to purchase the house and create the James Beard Foundation. The James Beard Foundation Awards are held on the first Monday in May as part of a fortnight of activities that celebrate fine cuisine and Beard's birthday. The Awards ceremony honors the finest chefs, restaurants, journalists, cookbook authors, restaurant designers and electronic media professionals in the country. It culminates in a reception featuring a tasting of the signature dishes of more than 30 of the James Beard Foundation's best chefs.

The Washington Post (Sept.18, 2006) published a piece on the Christopher Street youth problem by **Michelle Garcia** called *Race, Class and Sex Breed Contempt in Greenwich Village*. To access it go to the Greenwich Village Block Associations at www.gvba.org; a link is provided.

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