



## Bedford • Barrow • Commerce

Block Association  
46 Barrow Street • New York, NY 10014

### BBC HOLIDAY PARTY SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9, 6-9 PM

The Bedford Barrow Commerce Block Association  
Commerce@gmail.com

2017 Holiday Party

When: Saturday, December 9, 6-9 PM

Where: Greenwich House Music School,  
46 Barrow St., Auditorium

Price: Adults, \$15; Children (under 12), \$5

Food, Fun, Fellowship—Greenwich Village Style

\* Buffet Dinner. Fresh cold cuts, scrumptious salads, and succulent sweet treats are the fare, including the BBC's legendary cookies and pies! Drinks—juice, wine, and fresh-brewed coffee—are also provided. Home-baked goods are welcome; bring them with you or drop them off at the School at 4 PM on Party Day.

\* Magic Show with Gary

\* Special visit by Santa Claus and his helpers.

Santa is dropping in early this year to give every boy and girl a holiday treat. Ho, Ho, Ho! And Santa has many prizes to give away to Raffle Winners!

\* Holiday Sing-Along. **Lucy Gallagher** and **Victoria McMahon** will lead us in singing all our holiday favorites. Elves wanted to trim tree and help decorate! Report to Mama Elf, **Kathy Donaldson**, at the Music School at 4 PM on Party Day.



### Our Third Annual Literary Soiree

Greenwich Village has always been a mecca for artists and writers. On Wednesday, November 1, that tradition of creativity was alive, well and celebrated at the BBC's Third Annual Literary Soiree, held at the Greenwich

House Music School (46 Barrow St.) Village writers working in a variety of genres—especially fiction, non-fiction, and the creative nonfiction forms, memoir and personal essay—gathered together to read their works to an enthusiastic and appreciative audience. This was a distinguished and supremely talented group.

**Stuart Waldman** read a moving and poignant excerpt from a personal essay about his uncle, who died tragically and too soon.

**Kathleen Squires** gave us a piece she wrote for *Saveur* about spending the holidays in Puerto Rico (thanks to so many of Kathleen's Puerto Rican relatives for attending! They added such liveliness and warmth to the evening).

**Erik Bottcher** read his essay "Dear Cornelia Street," Jones Street's hilarious rebuttal to its more gentrified neighbor.

**Joan Richardson**, biographer of the poet Wallace Stevens, read *How to Live. What to Do: Two of Thirteen Ways of Looking at Wallace Stevens*.

**Bill Lynch** treated us to his funny and gritty work-in-progress, *Punching Above My Weight in a Muscular Metropolis: A Dream-Come-True Year in New York City*.

We look forward to the completed memoir!

**Keen Berger** gave us insight about grandmothers from her work in progress that includes her own experiences as Grandmother to three boys.

**Laura Fredricks**, Money Wellness Expert, gave us timely advice from her latest book, *The Ask for Business, for Philanthropy, for Everyday Living*.

And **Diane Wildowsky** charmed us with her recollections of her aunt and their adventures together, especially in making a prized coat together when Diane was a mere sapling.



Wallace Stevens

Thanks to **Kathy Donaldson** and **Leslie Sharpe**, who emcee'd the proceedings, for organizing this fabulous evening for us all to enjoy. It was a celebration of talent and community that for many of us, evoked the spirit of the old Village.

### Holiday Tradition

Once again, BBCer **Dale Belli** has asked the BBC to put the word out to encourage our members to make / donate items for the PWA Christmas Project. Especially needed are sweaters, sweatshirts, thermal underwear, sweatpants, socks, hats, gloves scarves, mittens, etc. Dale writes that "there is a strong demand for men's gifts". We also welcome—and appreciate—rolls of wrapping paper and tape. These items will be distributed through The Urban Live Source Connection to people with AIDS in need of warmth in NYC area hospices and hospitals. This year, we extend our outreach to all five boroughs. We'll collect all contributions at the BBC Holiday Party. Thank you all for your generosity and holiday spirit!



**The outcome of the community meeting regarding construction** on Bedford and Commerce Streets with **Corey Johnson's** office and representatives of DDC on November 16 held at Casa restaurant.

DDC will consolidate storage areas

The weekly newsletter, also posted on the BBC bulletin board, will include more information regarding what type of work that will be performed during the hours indicated.

DDC will post information on bulletin boards in the area

Corey Johnson's office will continue to work with DOT to get the street lights fixed

Corey Johnson's office will continue to work with Verizon on phone issues

Corey Johnson's office will work with small businesses to file claims for lost business with the Comptroller's office

We will meet again in Mid-December, Con Edison, Verizon will be asked to attend as well

**Visiting Neighbors**, which has been a trusted lifeline for our community's seniors since 1972, needs your help during the holiday season. There are several ways you can make a difference. You'll feel good about your efforts as will our elderly neighbors.

The holidays can be lonely for seniors as they sit alone in their apartments watching television, seeing everyone celebrate with family and friends. Visiting

Neighbors tries to brighten seniors' days with extra visits and whenever possible, with donated gifts. If you have a few hours and can volunteer --- either over the holidays or during the rest of the winter -- call the VN office at **(212) 260-6200**. Volunteer elves are welcome for the holidays, and VN is always looking for volunteers to help seniors with shopping, getting to medical appointments and simply spending time with them. Also financial contributions are greatly appreciated. Every dollar counts and it's tax deductible.



**Cherry Lane Theatre presents Mentor Project 2018 Announcement Night!** Monday, December 4 at 7 PM. Join us as we kick off our 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary season of new plays with a party to announce and celebrate this season's playwrights and their mentors: **Anne Washburn** and **Midalia Cruz**. Free and open to the public, but reservations required: [cherrylanetheatre.org](http://cherrylanetheatre.org).

### Greenwich House Music School

**Billy Martin's Omnispheric Orchestra**, Saturday, December 2, 2017, 8:00 PM. Omnispheric Orchestra, an improvising ensemble that weaves prose and sound into a dynamic musical and literary experience. The ensemble includes **Billy Martin** (percussion), **Marty Ehrlich**, **Ned Rothenberg** and **Daniel Carter** (reeds), **Adam Lane** (bass), and the poets **Ashley August**, **Mohamad Hodeib**, **Bob Holman** and **Nkosi**



**Nkululeko**, among others to be named later. Tickets \$20 adults, \$15 students [www.greenwichhousemusic-school.org](http://www.greenwichhousemusic-school.org)

Greenwich Village Society for Historic Preservation (GVSHP)

**A Special Invitation, a Century in the Making: A Salmagundi Club Open House**

Sunday, December 10, 2:00 – 6:00 PM Salmagundi Club, 47 Fifth Avenue. Have you ever wondered what's going on behind the elegant façade at 47 Fifth Avenue,



the former Irad Hawley Mansion? As the Salmagundi Club celebrates one hundred years in this landmark double-wide 1853 house, you're invited to venture up the steps to see the art exhibits, experience the public cultural events, and take in the ambiance of the historic building, decorated festively for the holidays. Explore the club's library, the original owners' 19<sup>th</sup> century dressing rooms, the vintage bar, art galleries, and double parlor with its exquisite ornamental plasterwork. Docents will offer unique insights into the history of this Village institution. View historic artists' palettes and mugs (featured on *Antiques Roadshow*), the club's 22 fireplaces, as well as the historic Thumb Box Show, comprised of hundreds of small paintings by some of today's prominent realist painters. Discover hidden original details rarely on view and enjoy food, drink, holiday music, and good company. Free and open to the public. RSVP required. Co-sponsored by the Salmagundi Club, GVSHIP, and the Merchant's House Museum. This event is not fully accessible.

#### 2017 GUIDE TO HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS

GVSHIP West Village Holiday Lights and History, Thursday, December 7, 6:00-7:30 PM. RSVP for meet-up location. The lights are twinkling, the sun sets early, and, led by walking tour guide **Joyce Gold**, we will take in the sights and appreciate the unique history and charm of the West Village. The West Village is a landmarked preserve with its hidden gardens, a complex web of streets, and a house 9½ feet wide. From its parks to its quiet side streets to its holiday-festooned boutiques, this neighborhood is the perfect place to soak up and appreciate the warm holiday spirit. Free This event is outdoors and accessible.



*Joyce Gold*

#### BBC Holiday Party

Put it on your calendar! Bedford Barrow Block Association Holiday Party—the BEST Holiday Party in the Village!—Saturday, December 9, 6-9 PM, at Greenwich House Music School (46 Barrow St., Auditorium), Adults: \$15, Children (under 12): \$5. Food, fun, fellowship—Greenwich Village Style!

#### Washington Square Park Annual Tree Lighting

Wednesday, December 6, 6-7 PM, at the Washington Square Arch. The Rob Susman Brass Quartet and children and grown-ups alike will sing holiday songs. The sparkling lights on the resplendent tree will be turned on to mark the beginning of festive winter evenings. The Washington Square Association provides complimentary songbooks.



#### Sing Messiah! West Village Chorale

Handel's Messiah Open Audience Sing (Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South at Thompson St.), Sunday, December 3, 4 PM. Lift Up Your Heads and sing "Hallelujah!" with us. Our annual open sing, where the audience becomes the choir and makes a joyful noise in celebration of the holidays! \$15 General Admission; \$10 Students. Tickets available [www.westvillagechorale.org](http://www.westvillagechorale.org) or at the door.

**West Village Chorale's Annual Holiday Concert,** Christmas Carols Old and New (Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South at Thompson St.), Sunday, December 10, 5 PM. Our annual holiday concert features a sacred and secular carols spanning four centuries, including selections from Britten's *A Ceremony of Carols*, works by Betinis, Biebl, Pärt, Rachmaninoff, and Victoria, ornamented with traditional holiday favorites to sing along. Tickets available [www.westvillagechorale.org](http://www.westvillagechorale.org) or at the door. In advance \$25 general/\$10 student with ID: at the door \$30 general/\$15 student with ID

#### Greenwich Village Caroling Walk

Thursday December 7 6-7:30 PM at Judson Memorial Church. Join the West Village Cho-



rale for strolling through our historic, Dickensian neighborhood as we lead seasonal carols and songs. Refreshments, conviviality, and more singing follow back at Judson Memorial Church (entrance at 55 Washington Square South, at Thompson St.). Song books and light refreshments provide. Free and open to all!

**Christmas Eve Caroling Under the Arch in Washington Square Park**, Sunday, December 24 - 5-7 PM. The Rob Susman Brass Quartet, a song leader, and the revelers from all over the city will lustily sing out the familiar tunes. The words are in the songbooks distributed compliments of the Washington Square Association, but many will know them by heart. "Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men" will ring out to remind us all of the true meaning of the holidays.



**St. Luke in the Fields Christmas Activities** (Episcopal) (212.989.0562), 487 Hudson St.  
A Bach Christmas-Leipzig, 1723: *Magnificat in E Flat Major*: Choir of St. Luke in the Fields, **David Shuler**, Music Director, Thursday, December 7 at 8pm, tickets \$35-students and seniors \$25 212-414-7440 or music@stlukeinthefields.org purchase online bit.ly/stluketix  
Sunday, December 24, 5 PM: Christmas Pageant  
Sunday, December 24, 10 PM: Christmas Music by the St. Luke's Choir; 10:30 PM: Christmas Vigil  
Monday, December 25, 10:30 AM: Christmas Morning Mass

**Our Lady of Pompeii Christmas Activities** (Roman Catholic) (212.989.6805) 25 Carmine St.  
Sunday, December 24, 5 PM: Vigil Mass; 12 AM, Mon-



day, Midnight Mass  
Dec. 25, 9 AM: Mass; 11 AM: Mass; 12:15: Mass

**Judson Memorial Church** (Ecumenical) 55 Washington Square South at Thompson Street. For Christmas service times, please call 212.477.0351.

## Resources & Information

*The Post* writes that when members of the New York City Council are seeking to lower a tax, there must be a problem, and although the council has been trying for months to exempt supermarkets from the commercial rent tax, they have faced opposition from de Blasio.

Jimi Hendrix Way might wave its freak flag on W. Eighth St. **Storm Ritter**, an artist and small business owner came up with the idea. Ritter ordered a green-and-white street sign online that says, "Hendrix Way," and posted it above her shop/studio spacet. She then created a petition, which can be found at jimihendrixway.com and currently has more than 1,000 signatures. **Lee Foster**, general manager of Electric Lady Studios, created by Hendrix. endorses the street co-naming effort.



*from The Villager*

Efforts to dismantle the state Senate's Independent Democratic Conference – either forcing its eight members to rejoin the mainline Democrats, or attempting to defeat them in primaries next year – are building. *The New York Times* reports.

A good government group is calling for an investigation of MTA Chairman **Joe Lhota** over his ties to NYU Langone Medical Center, with Common Cause New York alleging Lhota is violating the law by continuing to serve as a lobbyist for the hospital  
*from The Daily News*

At October's Community Board 2 meeting, Liz Abzug presented a request to rename the northwest corner of Bank Street and Greenwich Streets Bella Abzug Way.

