

Newsletter

The **W75BA** newsletter reports Association activities and also covers issues that affect us on the West Side. It gives kudos for neighbors' achievements (and brickbats for offenders).

MISSION STATEMENT

OUR MISSION is to unite all residents of West 75th Street, both home owners and tenants, from Central Park West to Riverside Drive, in improving the quality of life in this most vibrant neighborhood. We will ...

- **foster** neighborliness and block safety.
- **preserve** and enhance the beauty of our street.
- **work with** owners and co-op boards, community groups, elected officials, and city agencies to inform residents on issues important to our Upper West Side neighborhood.
- **support** our independent neighborhood merchants by purchasing locally.
- **commit** to "green" living by making choices that promote energy conservation.



PHOTO: DEE FRIEBER

When residents were disturbed by excessive horn blowing in the mornings and afternoons as Manhattan Day School buses delivered and picked up the schoolchildren, the Block Association negotiated with the City and Don't Honk signs were installed at the West End/75th Street intersection.



PHOTO: JOSEPH BOLANDIS

West 75th Street row houses are characteristic of West Side architectural style.

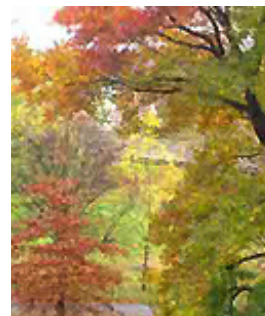


PHOTO: DEE FRIEBER

The changing colors of Riverside Park trees signal the arrival of fall.

"The West 75th Street Block Association is the most effective block association on the Upper West Side; it has a strong and positive impact on the neighborhood."
—Gail Brewer, NYC Councilmember

"The West 75th Street Block Association is a standout group that keeps us attentive to West Side concerns."
—Scott Stringer, Manhattan Borough President

**WEST 75TH STREET
BLOCK ASSOCIATION**

Park to Park

Central Park West to Riverside Drive

For more information:

www.w75ba.org / info@w75ba.org

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

(West 75th Street residence is not required.)

Name _____
 Address _____
 Telephone _____
 E-mail _____
 Date _____

Dues:

- Individual \$15/year
- Family, \$25/year
- Merchant/\$50/year
- Donation

Total enclosed.....

Mail or deliver application with check to
 W75BA, 33 Riverside Drive, #2A, New York, NY 10023

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**WEST 75TH STREET
BLOCK ASSOCIATION**
Park to Park



**Making a difference in
the way we live —
from Central Park West
to Riverside Drive**

WELCOME TO THE WEST 75TH STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION *Park to Park*

WHO WE ARE

Members of the West 75th Street Block Association work — and play — together with a common mission: to build a united community that is safe, friendly, and well informed.

Established in the late 1960s, the Association sponsors informative meetings, lively social events, street beautification programs, a newsletter, a website, and other volunteer projects that benefit everyone in the neighborhood. We also represent the Association's interests with city agencies and services, elected officials, and other community groups.

All residents (and their guests and friends) are welcome at Association meetings and events. Members enjoy a stronger voice in the Association and support our calendar of activities through nominal dues (\$15/yr individuals, \$25/yr families, \$50/yr merchants).

The Association is incorporated under section 402 of the not-for-profit corporation law of New York and is run by a volunteer leadership committee.

We invite you to join us in reaching our goals. Together we will make our street even more vibrant and welcoming.

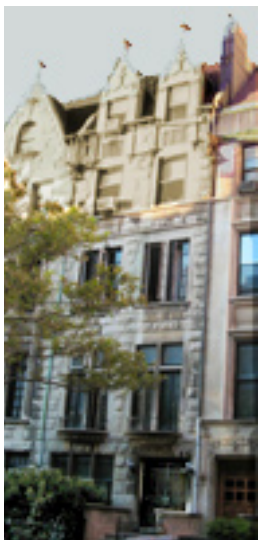


PHOTO: MARY RATCLIFFE

A group of West 75th Street residents met in the late 1960s at #311, a landmark townhouse, to form a block association that would address their shared concerns about neighborhood safety.

Cover photo: Mary Ratcliffe. Residents have made West 75th Street a garden district.

WHAT WE DO

In the late 1960s, street crime in NYC was 24/7, and besieged residents on West 75th Street joined in the block association movement to make our neighborhood safer and preserve our quality of life.

Our first project: the purchase and installation of the powerful sodium street lamps that still light our way home at night.

Since then we have —

- initiated and maintained the W75BA website.
- negotiated with the City for the installation of our first curb extension, at West End Avenue and 75th Street.
- installed new tree guards.
- assisted in the dismissal of a known sex offender from the staff of a W75 building.
- spearheaded removal of the Jumbotron from Duane Reade at Broadway and West 72nd Street.
- published a directory of members who conduct independent businesses in the neighborhood.
- led in the formation of a coalition of West Side block and community leaders, from 34th to 116th Streets.



PHOTO: DEE RIEBER

One of our new tree guards

Increasingly proactive from Central Park West to Riverside Drive, W75BA is building a true community of civic-minded, warmhearted, and friendly neighbors.

General Meetings

NYC's movers and shakers — local legislators, and leadership from the agencies, organizations, and merchants that shape our everyday lives — are the presenters at general meetings. They keep us up to date on issues like public transit, our adjacent parks, our adjacent parks, keeping small businesses in our community, making choices for "green" living.



PHOTO: MEGAN KELLER

Crowds flock to the sumptuous buffets at our street parties; the food is donated by neighborhood restaurants. The generous support from our local merchants is important to our programs, and we recognize and promote them individually on our website.

Beautification

Keeping the bloom on West 75th Street is constant.

- Twice a year we sponsor planting days that renew tree beds and window boxes.
- Year-round we encourage residents to maintain the gardens.
- In June we recognize outstanding efforts with Block Beautification Awards.



PHOTO: JOSEPH BOLANOS

Members put a lot of muscle into planting the street's tree beds.

Social Events

Twice a year, we throw ourselves a party.

- In September, it's an outdoor street fair, with delicious food, games, music, entertainment, raffle prizes, rummage sales, and vendor tables.
- In December, we host a lively holiday party at which we vote on the community nonprofit groups to receive donations from the Block Association.

Website

Check out our website, www.w75ba.org. Updated frequently, it's *the* place to go for —

- a calendar of Association events plus West Side and citywide happenings of note.
- links to wide-ranging general resources, government contacts, and NYC getaways.
- recognition, contact information, and thanks for our neighborhood merchants, whose generous support is invaluable to our endeavors.
- photo galleries of Association events.
- the pet corner, with photos of our companion animals.
- histories of the Block Association and the Upper West Side.
- *and much more!*

It's *your* website, and we hope you will be an active contributor! E-mail your photos and W75 news to info@w75ba.org.

(Continued overleaf)