



choose? I think I would probably stay in Tribeca. There are also some fabulous townhouses in Brooklyn Heights and Cobble Hill. I've been tempted several times to consider those neighborhoods.

If a family comes to you and is looking for something new and different to buy, what might you recommend to them? I think there are cool things going on in the Lower East Side. There are a lot of night spots. The far East Village is a fun place to live, and The Bowery is also getting very hot. If it's too expensive in the Village and Tribeca and a family needs the room, I'd recommend that they go to Brooklyn.

Do you have any real estate market predictions for 2008? It's going to be stronger than 2007. I will predict that uptown mega-apartments—the \$50 million deals—are going to slow down, but market activity is going to be better than 2007.

SOTHEBY'S:

From left to right: Mara Flash Blum with James; Phyllis Galloway with Brett; Royce Pinkwater with Nicholas and Jonathan; Nikki Field with Amanda; Robin L. Rothman with Adam.

WARBURG (photo on page 89)

» *Miles Chapin, Licensed Salesperson, with Tess (13) and Moses (9)*

Where do you live, and what are your favorite things about the neighborhood? We live in Long Island City and love the neighborly aspect of it. We know everyone on our block.

What are your favorite things to do in the city as a family? We love exploring the city and discovering cheap ethnic restaurants. We also visit parks that we haven't been to before.



What are the most important tips you'd offer families looking to buy a home in the city? Don't live too far from your kids' schools, and stay friendly with your neighbors, especially the ones with whom you share walls and floors!

» *Camille Duvall-Hero, Associate Broker, with Gabrielle (12) and Alexander (16)*

What are your favorite things to do in the city as a family? We love Sunday brunch and attending Rangers or Yankees games. My son played travel hockey for the Cyclones at Chelsea Piers, and my daughter keeps her pony at Riverdale Equestrian Center. My kids also love to be "tour guides" to The Met when we have out-of-town guests.

What are the most important tips you'd offer families looking to buy a home in the city? If you really need space, don't get totally locked into a single neighborhood and consider the fringes. Also, while everyone loves prewar, don't discount the developments. Many offer great space, larger kitchens and baths, central air conditioning, and great amenities packages—many aimed at families. And best of all, no need to renovate!

What is your favorite aspect of being a real estate broker?

Each day is new and different, and as an architecture buff—I really get to see some amazing spaces. I like the challenge of finding just the right space for a family; it's truly gratifying.

» *Leslie Valdez, Licensed Salesperson, with Messiah (5)*

What are your favorite things about where you live? We live in West Harlem. We love going to Settepani Bakery for brunch, then heading to Grandma's toy store on Lenox Avenue. I love the open sky, the people, the sense of community, and the great architecture.

If a family comes to you and is looking for something new and different to buy, what might you recommend to them? Brownstones are ideal for families because they have "house" living in an urban environment. I am finding more and more families heading to Harlem, purchasing brownstones, and loving the space and the neighborhood. You get the best of both worlds.

Do you have any real estate market predictions for 2008? The first part of the year may be bumpy, but once the issues with subprime loans are cleared, people will regain confidence, and purchasing should increase substantially.

SOTHEBY'S

» *Mara Flash Blum, Senior Vice President, with James (16); Benjamin (20) was not present*

Where do you live, and what do you love about the neighborhood? We live in the Flatiron District/Fifth Avenue. The location is very convenient.

What are the most important tips you offer families looking to buy a home in the city? Walk the neighborhood at different times of day, eat at some of the local restaurants, visit the zoned public school, and research the local private schools.

If you could live with your family in any part of the city, in any type of housing, what would you choose? I would like to live in the Village. I toy with the idea of moving to a townhouse, but ultimately I think I would love to be more comfortable in a large, duplex four-bedroom loft.

» *Nikki Field, Senior Vice President, with Amanda (26); Alexandra (24) was not present*

What are your favorite things about your neighborhood? We live on Park Avenue in the 80s. I love living in the heart of the family "suburbs." The schools are the magnet that keeps our neighborhood vibrant and young.

What are the most important tips you'd offer families looking to buy a home in the city? Do not be afraid to look in other neighborhoods outside your comfort zone or your location of choice. A few short blocks from your "must live" location may provide many more affordable options. Tip: Think along both rivers and Murray Hill.

If a family comes to you and is looking for something new and different to buy, what might you recommend to them? Townhouses. They remain the most underrated and best-kept secret of the premier lifestyle in New York.

What is your favorite aspect of being a real estate broker? Facilitating a successful transaction out of the chaos of the Manhattan market.

» *Phyllis Gallaway, Senior Vice President/Associate Broker, with Brett (23)*

What are your favorite things about where you live? We live in a co-op in the heart of the East End area, which I love because it is quiet and removed from the hustle and bustle of city life. I am also steps from Carl Schurz Park, the promenade, and great restaurants.

What are your favorite things to do in the city as a family? One of our favorite family times is to go biking together in Central Park.

What are the most important tips you'd offer families looking to buy a home in the city? Analyze your family needs before picking an area. This can include: walking distance to the office and proximity to parks, playgrounds, and schools. Explore different neighborhoods to see which you feel most comfortable in, and learn the market in those areas.

If you could live with your family in any part of the city, in any type of housing situation, what would you