

COTTAGES & GARDENS

[SECTIONS](#)[SUBSCRIBE](#)[SOCIAL](#)

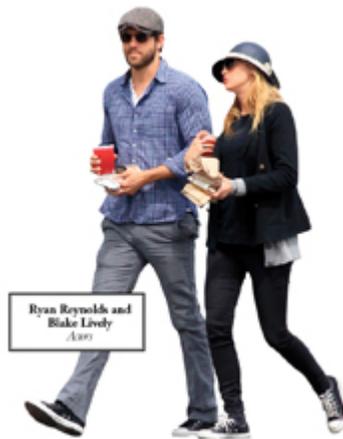
The inside scoop on New York real estate

FROM ROBERT DE NIRO SELLING HIS GREENWICH VILLAGE TOWNHOUSE TO NEWLYWEDS RYAN REYNOLDS AND BLAKE LIVELY PURCHASING THE PERFECT BEDFORD, NY HOME, WE'RE IN THE KNOW ON THESE NOTE WORTHY DEALS.

Raging Bull Market?



TOWNHOUSES IN GREENWICH VILLAGE have never been more in demand—except, perhaps, when they're a wreck. Famed actor and Tribeca booster Robert De Niro finally sold his St. Lukes Place townhouse for \$9.5 million this summer, after it languished for a year on the market. That's about one-third less than the



ALREADY THE MOST GLAMOROUS of Westchester's towns, Bedford has recently acquired two new celebrities: Blake Lively and Ryan Reynolds. Although the area has always been a draw among bold-faced names of a certain age, it's much less common for a young unmarried couple to put down roots in this quaint, low-key community. (Lively and Reynolds were also spotted house-hunting across state lines in even quieter New Canaan, where CEOs outrank celebrities by approximately a billion to one.) Current Bedford notables include Martha Stewart, who generated a tiny bit of ill will when she tried to trademark "Katonah," the hamlet in which she lives, for branding one of her furniture collections; Ralph Lauren, who sells a \$2,000 handbag called the Bedford; Glenn Close; Chevy Chase; and Paul Shaffer. Richard Gere and his wife, Carey Lowell, also live in town, where they run the much loved Bedford Post Inn, which includes eight luxury rooms, two restaurants, and a yoga studio. But the young *Green Lantern* stars are apparently not particularly welcome there, at least according to the tabloids, which reported that Reynolds accused another Bedford Post Inn patron of following him out of the restaurant as both were exiting simultaneously. Could Reynolds have a stalker in this storied, sleepy town? In July, the actor called the cops after a car he thought was tailing him pulled into the *exact same shopping plaza* that he did. The ensuing police report sparked rumors that Reynolds and Lively had married, since the complaint referred to his lissome blond companion as "his wife." But the pair have not wed, as far as anyone knows.



Diamond Jim Brady
Philanthropist

Lillian Russell
Actress

Fancy joining the Lively-Reynolds neighborhood? Just up the road from the couple's \$2.3 million Colonial is Northshire, an English country manor on 36 acres, built in 1934 (Depression? What Depression?) by society architect Mott Schmidt for Richard W. Woolworth, an heir to the five-and-dime fortune. Schmidt is perhaps best known for the home he designed for heiress Alice Astor—a circa-1926 Hudson Valley estate that was converted into a home for unwed mothers and then a drug rehab center before being restored by designer Robert Couturier. Northshire offers 9,000 square feet of renovated interiors as well as a pool, tennis courts, a barn, a stable, and paddocks and is listed for \$18.5 million with Linda Gracie of Houlihan Lawrence. And then there's the circa-1930s house on land once owned by Diamond Jim Brady, the rags-to-riches Irish immigrant/bellboy who went on to become a Gilded Age philanthropist with a net worth of \$12 million. Brady dated actress Lillian Russell, had a thing for precious gems, and generally lived large, which explains why he snapped up 500 acres of prime Bedford real estate. The 5,000-square-foot home includes five bedrooms, six bathrooms, and one half bathroom on the seven remaining acres, which feature gorgeous gardens, a pool, and a Japanese-tea-house-style pool house with a kitchen and Viking appliances. Fun fact: Parts of the original film version of *Sabrina*, starring Audrey Hepburn, were filmed on the property. And it's within walking distance of the Mount Kisco train station, says broker Muffin Dowdle of Ginnel Real Estate—but why walk when, like *Sabrina*, you can simply get your chauffeur to drive you?