

Turtle Bay News

A Publication of the Turtle Bay Association

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Safe Neighborhood Even Safer, Numbers Show

Long known as a safe neighborhood, Turtle Bay saw crime decline again last year, with the 17th Precinct showing the biggest year-over-year drop in crime of any of the 22 precincts in Manhattan, and the second largest decrease in the entire city.

The number of reported crimes in the seven major crime categories in the 17th Precinct was down 16 percent compared with 2004,

down 33 percent compared with 2000, and down 77 percent compared with 1990, the first year the city began tabulating crime statistics using the current method.

The continued reduction in crime is particularly impressive considering the fact that the 17th Precinct – which roughly covers the area from 30th to 59th Streets and from Lexington Avenue to the East River – historically has had a low crime rate compared with the rest of the city.

“We’re extremely proud of what was really phenomenal performance last year,” says Captain John Wallace, who joined the precinct as commanding officer last March. He credits not only his 180-man police force, but also the local community, which he says is one of the most active and supportive in the city.

Capt. Wallace notes that the precinct saw a record reduction in grand larceny,

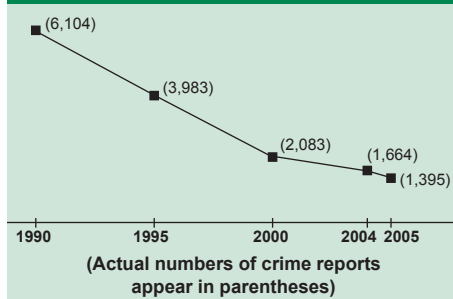
which accounts for some 70 percent of the neighborhood’s crime, and which is related primarily to items such as handbags and wallets stolen from area offices. He credits the 21 percent year-over-year reduction to the crime prevention unit, headed by Police Officer James Meury, which worked with office building managers to better secure their messenger-receiving procedures.

Numbers by Category

A breakdown of all crime reported in the precinct last year shows: grand larceny, down 21 percent; grand larceny/vehicles, down 15 percent; burglaries, down 15 percent; and felony assaults, down 1 percent. Only robberies and rapes showed an increase, but the actual numbers in both cases are small. Rape complaints – all “acquaintance” rapes – were up from nine to 13, a 44 percent increase; and robberies

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Decline in Total Crime Reports 17th Precinct 1990-2005



U.N. Park Reopens

The United Nations Garden, closed to the public for most of the past five years, has reopened after completion of a massive project to improve security around the U.N. complex.

The park reopened in mid-December and will be available to the public seven days a week from 11 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

The new security system, which cost some \$26 million, included a new perimeter fence, updated lighting and new sophisticated surveillance equipment incorporated along the perimeter and interior of the park. The park was originally scheduled to reopen in the summer of 2004, but the project ran into unforeseen delays, primarily related to installation of the perimeter fence. All construction trailers will be removed shortly.

While the park is once again open to the public, the U.N. cautions that its big interior renovation project currently calls for a temporary conference structure to be built on the park lawn starting in 2007. (see story, page 3) That will necessitate temporarily closing the park once again. But for now, the park is open! Neighbors are reminded that they will be required to go through a security checkpoint before entering the park.



A Toast to Turtle Bay! Proprietors of the neighborhood’s French restaurants, all TBA Business Members, are, from left, Virginie and Pascal Petiteau, co-owners of Jubilee, where he is also the chef; Ernesto Morel, La Méditerranée; Bucky Yahiaoui, Deux Amis; and Gerard Donato, La Mangeoire. See story, page 5.

Mark Your Calendar

- **Sunday, May 7**
Turtle Bay Street Fair
Second Avenue from 43rd to 53rd
212-751-5465
- **Saturday, May 13**
Katharine Hepburn Garden Party
1-3 p.m.
Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
212-969-8820; 212-751-5465
- **Saturday, June 10**
Outdoor Art Show
High School of Art & Design
10 a.m.-3 p.m.
Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
212-969-8820
- **Saturday, June 24**
Empire Autorama
Classic Cars on Display
9 a.m.-6 p.m.
Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
646-932-0421
- **Last Tuesday every month**
17th Precinct Community Council
Open Meeting, 6 p.m.
Sutton Place Synagogue
225 East 51st Street
212-826-3228
(No meetings July, August,
December)
- **Second Wednesday every month**
Community Board 6
Full Board Meeting, 7 p.m.
NYU Medical Center
550 First Avenue
212-319-3750

TBA Contacts:

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Fax: 212-751-4941

E-mail: tbaoffice@mindspring.com

Web Site: www.turtlebay-nyc.org

Check our Bulletin Board:
East side of Second Avenue,
between 48th and 49th Streets,
on outside wall of the supermarket.

TBA to Mark Half-Century

Next year marks the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Turtle Bay Association, and the TBA is starting to focus on plans for celebrating its half-century mark. If you are interested in serving on a committee to plan 50th anniversary events, please call the office at 212-751-5465 or email tbaoffice@mindspring.com.

Hazards Create Havoc

By BRUCE A. SILBERBLATT

Two construction accidents, separated in space and time by a few hundred yards and less than a month, created chaos and concern in Turtle Bay recently.

On December 15, what the Turtle Bay Association had forecast in writing to the Department of Buildings – and to the builder and the owner – many weeks prior, came to pass at the former Box Tree site, 250-254 East 49th Street. The excavation had seriously undercut and damaged adjoining buildings. At 915 Second Avenue, floors sagged and walls cracked. All four structures east of the construction site were evacuated; 49th Street was closed between Second and Third; and police, firefighters, the Buildings Department, Con Edison and the Red Cross were mobilized. Traffic was at a standstill.

An emergency crew eventually stabilized the affected wall using steel shores. Tenants of three of the four emptied buildings were allowed back that evening – but not at 915 Second Avenue. With cracking worsening despite the shoring, it remains empty – indefinitely. Thady Con's restaurant is closed, facing an uncertain future. Third floor residents have been forced to seek shelter elsewhere. Construction at the Box Tree site has halted; all equipment, even the sidewalk shed, is gone.

Just 24 days later, on January 9, an apparently overloaded first floor crashed into the basement of 331 East 51st Street, slightly injuring four of the crew that was altering the four-floor structure from apartments into

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Opposition To Disco Bar Gains Support

Their fight far from over, neighbors got a boost in their opposition to a disco bar at the corner of 46th and Second Avenue, when local leaders held a press conference at the site to call for overhaul of the State Liquor Authority's licensing process.

Assemblyman Jonathan Bing – who was joined by State Senator Liz Krueger, Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer and City Councilman Dan Garodnick – announced that he will introduce a bill requiring the State Liquor Authority (SLA) to take quality-of-life issues more seriously before granting licenses to proposed nightclubs.

Neighbors have been fighting the planned Embassy disco bar, at what was once Hsin Yu Restaurant, for over a year. The TBA has twice written to the SLA chairman urging rejection, Community Board 6 unanimously passed a resolution opposing the bar in the “strongest terms possible,” and Bing and others have written many times to the SLA head. Yet the SLA has granted the disco bar a license.

The Embassy will be open until 4 a.m., a D.J. playing music for up

to 100 patrons, and windows opening onto 46th Street. Under law, because the site is so close to other entities with liquor licenses, the Embassy must show that being granted a license is in the “public interest.”

A group of neighbors is considering filing an Article 78 appeal, claiming the SLA's decision was made arbitrarily and should be revoked. To learn more about the fight and how you can help, check out www.banthebar.org, or contact the TBA office.



Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer speaks with neighbors at a January 26th news conference called by Assemblyman Jonathan Bing to press for overhaul of the state liquor licensing process.

'Plan B' Moves Ahead

Stymied by New York State legislators, who failed last year to approve legislation to allow a new "swing space" building to be built on the Moses Playground site south of 42nd Street, the United Nations is moving forward with another plan for renovating its aging headquarters complex.

Under the new plan, now headed to the U.N. General Assembly for approval, the 38-floor Secretariat building will be renovated 10 floors at a time, with displaced staff moving to nearby Midtown offices during the work. In addition, a temporary two-story conference hall will be built on the U.N. Park's north lawn, a building that would be torn down when the work is completed in 2014. It would be set up as early as late 2007, forcing the U.N. Park, which only recently reopened, to be closed to the public once again.

The new proposal replaces an earlier plan, under which a 35-story office building would have been built on the site of Moses Playground south of 42nd Street. It was to have been used as temporary space for staff while the Secretariat was being renovated, and later as permanent offices for employees who are currently dispersed in locations around the city. However, for parkland to be converted, approval is needed from the New York State Legislature, which failed to take action.

The TBA's Annual Toy Drive and Holiday Party raised more than \$2,000 and plenty of toys and gifts for needy children in the area. Contributions were given to God's Love We Deliver, Salvation Army and North Side Center for Child Development. The TBA thanks the Turtle Bay Music School for graciously hosting the event in its concert hall.



Clockwise from top left: Members of the Toy Drive Committee were, left to right: Francine Irwin, Barbara Connolly, Claire Brabec, Bunny Blei, Roz Gilbert, Elaine Downey and Randy Goldstein; Assemblyman Jonathan Bing and his wife of five months, Meredith Ballew; lucky winners of the many poinsettia plants given away were, left to right, Heather and Edward Crafts, Fern and Leon Lerner, and Dick Irwin; newly elected City Councilman Dan Garodnick and his constituents.

Newsworthy Notes

And Now, Only Two. If you've looked at the skyline just south of Turtle Bay recently, there is something missing: one of the three prominent smokestacks of Con Ed's 100-year-old Waterside generating plant. The stack was demolished slowly over several months, starting at the top. Debris was thrown into the smokestack as it "shrank," and then trucked out of the city. The other two smokestacks are also being demolished. The plant site has been sold to a developer. (see related story, page 4)

Breaking Ground. Excavation has started on the 27-story white concrete tower that will house the U.S. Mission to the United Nations, scheduled for occupancy in 2008. The building, at the corner of First Avenue and 45th Street, will have a welcoming entrance but its first seven

floors will be windowless – a concession to today's intense security concerns.

A Pretty Face in the Movies. The handsome façade of the early 20th Century East 54th Street Recreation Center recently got starring roles in two soon-to-be released movies. The building's red brick front was converted to a police precinct station house for an action-packed scene in the upcoming movie, "My Super Ex-Girlfriend," starring Uma Thurman. And earlier, the façade, as well as the interior, was the setting for scenes in the upcoming movie "Fur," starring Nicole Kidman.

10017 in the Headlines. National Geographic Magazine's monthly feature highlighting zip codes selected 10017 for its December issue. The story focused mainly on Grand Central Terminal and

has spectacular photos of the grand old building. If you missed it, excerpts and photos can be found online at www.nationalgeographic.com/ngm/archives.html.

Patio Winter Hours. The Patio, at the east end of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, remains open Monday-Friday during the winter. Hours are 8-6 p.m. In the spring, the Patio will once again be open seven days a week with extended hours, and will have its outdoor area open for business.

Cold Weather Market. Several stalls remain open at the Greenmarket at Dag Hammarskjold Plaza this winter. In the spring more than a dozen vendors will be back for the warmer months. Winter vendors' products include dairy, meats, orchard products, poultry and pastries. The Greenmarket is open every Wednesday.

Send Us Your E-mail

The TBA encourages you to send us your e-mail address so we can communicate with you more effectively. Either call the office, or e-mail tbaoffice@mindspring.com, with the subject "subscribe." Be assured the TBA will never share your e-mail address with anyone else.

Visit Our Web Site

We invite you to visit our Web site, www.turtlebay-nyc.org. The site includes neighborhood history, announcements, events, an archive of TBA newsletters, and more.

Hazards *continued from page 2*

a single-family town house. Once again, Turtle Bay experienced one of its streets closed, jammed with emergency equipment and personnel. Here, the damage was confined to 331. The Buildings Department issued "post-facto" violations citing work without a permit and, as with the Box Tree site, work has since been suspended.

So where was the City Department of Buildings? There are some 900,000 buildings in the city and the Department, stretched to the breaking point, cannot cover them all. Several brownstone conversions are going on in Turtle Bay; construction activity is



Neighbors joined in supporting Dag Hammarskjold Plaza at a "Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza" annual fundraiser at the Trump World Bar. From left to right are Olivia and Harry Koukopoulos, Margaret Mory and Bozena Massey. The nonprofit group works to preserve and beautify the Plaza and Katharine Hepburn Garden.

TBA Holds 49th Annual Meeting

TBA members gathered on November 15 to hear updates from TBA President Bill Curtis and TBA Board members at the organization's annual meeting.

"The association has had an active, successful year," Bill told the members. He highlighted some of the group's activities, including monitoring significant building and zoning issues in the neighborhood, and intervening where necessary; publishing a Turtle Bay walking tour pocket guide issued free to all members and now available for sale; naming 49th Street between Second and Third Avenues Katharine Hepburn Place, a move that was spearheaded by the TBA; and sponsoring numerous charitable and social events.

State Assemblyman Jonathan Bing updated the attendees on neighborhood issues; Dan Garodnick made his first appearance

internal, making it impossible for the public to detect and report trouble. This, however, does not excuse the Box Tree case, where problems visible from the street arose early in the game.

Written Predictions

Despite complaints and, above all, written predictions of dire consequences from the Turtle Bay Association, the Buildings Department allowed work to continue until it was too late.

The Turtle Bay Association continues to monitor building work in the community. Members can help by being alert to what is going on nearby and reporting problems to the Buildings Department, to their elected officials (Assemblyman Jonathan Bing is active in trying to help) and, of course, to the TBA.

before the TBA since being elected City Councilman the week prior; and Captain John Wallace, 17th Precinct Commanding Officer, reported that the neighborhood continues to reflect its fine reputation as a safe place to live.

TBA Treasurer Francine Irwin reported a 2004 funds balance of \$49,000. Other reports came from Bruce Silberblatt, TBA Vice President and Land Use Chair; Barbara Connolly, Special Events Chair; Meryl Brodsky, Membership Committee co-chair; Denise Hamilton, Environmental Committee co-chair; Bill Huxley, TBA Tree Program; and Tom Payne, who gave an update on TBA's Web site as well as the Next Generation Committee.

The TBA thanks Grey Advertising for providing facilities for the meeting, and refreshments afterward.

Density of Con Ed Site Concerns Community

The developer of the Con Edison Waterside site, Sheldon Solow, is standing pat in his plans for the nine acres that run along First Avenue south of 41st Street. His architects have met five times with the Community Board 6 Land Use Committee, at which strong community objections to the density and height have been heard.

Solow wants the site to be totally zoned as commercial. Why? Because commercial zoning permits a huge "bulk" bonus for building plazas and park areas. The only way a developer can get the same density in a residential zone is through low-income inclusionary housing, something that does not figure into Solow's plans.

Current plans call for several tall towers, four of which would be similar in height to Trump World Tower, and which would be mainly residential with some office space.

Walking Tour Pocket Guide

Copies of "A Day in Turtle Bay," a pocket guide and walking tour of the neighborhood, are available for \$5 each if picked up at the TBA office, or \$7, to cover postage, if mailed.

FRENCH RESTAURANTS OF TURTLE BAY

Editor's Note: This is the first of what will be occasional 'Eye on Business' articles profiling TBA member-restaurants.

Deux Amis

A relative newcomer to the Turtle Bay restaurant scene, Deux Amis opened in 2000, on a charmingly quiet stretch of 51st Street between First and Second Avenues. The location has turned out to be a good one for owner “Bucky” Yahiaoui, who says the many new condo buildings near the little bistro have helped his business grow, particularly in the last three years.

Bucky, who is so identified with Deux Amis that some patrons refer to the restaurant simply as “Bucky’s,” long dreamed of having a restaurant. Born in Algeria, he came to New York in 1987 and started as a delivery boy for a deli on Sixth Avenue. But he rose quickly in the restaurant trade and before long, he was manager of the antipasto bar at the well-known West Side eatery Trattoria dell’Arte, where he worked for 10 years.

Deux Amis, which he co-owns with Jacque Ouari, specializes in southern Provençal cuisine, but Bucky’s North African roots are evident in the popular couscous dishes featured on the menu. Designed as a typical French bistro, the restaurant’s relaxing sidewalk café is a favorite with patrons in the summertime.

356 East 51st Street. 212-230-1117. Open daily, for dinner only; Sat.-Sun., brunch. Zagat-rated.

Jubilee

When Jubilee advertises itself as a “modern French bistro,” it doesn’t use the word romantic. But there indeed has been a little romance at Jubilee since it first opened in 1994. Manager Virginie Perret Petiteau fell in love with the chef, Pascal Petiteau, and today the two – now co-owners of the restaurant – are happily married with two small children.

She comes from Brittany, and he from the Loire. Early on, Pascal started working at some of the great kitchens in France. He came to New York just a year before Jubilee opened, and has been at the helm of the kitchen from the start. Virginie too has been at Jubilee since it opened. The couple jointly owns the restaurant with a partner, Eric Macaire.

Jubilee serves classic French bistro fare with what Virginie and Pascal call a “modern twist.” The menu is wide-ranging, but the signature dish is steamed Prince Edward Island mussels prepared several different ways, from Provençale to marinier to curried.

The restaurant space, which Turtle Bay old-timers may remember as the long-time site of Café Europa and La Brioche, is designed in a sleek, up-to-date fashion with an inviting bar in the back.

347 East 54th Street. 212-888-3569. www.jubileenyc.com. Open daily for dinner; Mon.-Fri., lunch; Sun., brunch. Zagat and Michelin-rated.

La Mangeoire

Owner Gerard Donato learned the restaurant business as a young boy growing up in Antibes, in the south of France, where his parents owned a restaurant. In 1982, he took over La Mangeoire, which originally had opened in 1975. The restaurant features the cuisine of Provence, and reminiscent of the region, it’s filled with sheaths of lavender, copperware and pretty flower bouquets.

Specialties include caramelized onion tarte, Provençale fish soup and rabbit leg in mustard and tarragon sauce. And recently, the restaurant’s chef Johann Girard – who with his sister owns a restaurant in Paris that features North African cuisine – has introduced a popular tagine entrée.

Gerard says that when people ask him what kind of restaurant he has, “I tell them we are first and foremost a *neighborhood* restaurant.” He doesn’t advertise, instead relying on word of mouth. Neighbors may remember that La Mangeoire was closed for several months two years ago after a kitchen fire. When it reopened, Gerard says he was overjoyed at the response from the neighborhood. “With no advertising – just a sign about our reopening on the front door – we had a full house for dinner the very first night!”

1008 Second Avenue. 212-759-7086. www.lamangeoire.com. Open daily for dinner; Mon.-Fri., lunch; Sun., brunch. Zagat and Michelin-rated.

La Méditerranée

Ernesto Morel’s more than 25 years as proprietor of La Méditerranée began when he stopped in at the establishment in the spring of 1980 and asked if he could buy a drink at the bar. “Not only can you buy a drink, you can buy the whole restaurant,” Ernesto recalls the owner of the then-struggling bistro replying.

Fresh from a five-year stint as the maitre d’ at La Mangeoire, Ernesto did just that. He refurbished the space, commissioned handsome murals of the south of France; hired a chef specializing in Provençal cuisine; and within months La Méditerranée had become the popular neighborhood eatery that it remains today.

Many loyal customers go back to La Méditerranée’s first days. But Ernesto says his clientele also reflects younger residents who are moving into some of the new apartment buildings in the neighborhood. “I’m happy with the change I’m seeing here in Turtle Bay,” he says, “It’s bringing in young working families, and that’s good for all the merchants.”

Marino Ospina, chef since 1987, serves a wide range of specialties, including bouillabaisse, cassoulet, couscous and game. A recent addition to La Méditerranée is a bar in the front of the restaurant, where customers can also dine. Pianist Harold Jon plays romantic classics until 10:30 p.m.; then piped-in music at the bar takes on a more modern beat.

947 Second Avenue. 212-755-4155. www.lamediterranee.com. Open daily for dinner; Mon.-Fri., lunch; Sat.-Sun., brunch. Zagat-rated.

TBA Board at Work

The following is a summary of issues and activities addressed at recent TBA Board meetings, as reflected in the meeting minutes. The TBA:

- is working, with Community Board 6 and as part of the East Midtown Coalition for Sensible Development, on two issues of importance to the neighborhood: ensuring that Moses Playground is not ceded to the United Nations without an equivalent park site being designated in its place, and monitoring ongoing plans for the development of the Con Ed Waterside site.
- joined other neighborhood interests in opposing the MTA's planned utility building on East 50th Street, which has now been modified.
- is monitoring neighborhood construction sites, including 250-254 East 49th Street, for safety and other concerns.
- worked to ensure re-opening of the pocket park at 240 East 47th Street, including communications to the City Department of Buildings and the building's owner. The park will reopen this spring.
- has voted to oppose a plan for a light-rail system on 42nd Street, a proposal that would add significant vehicular traffic to Turtle Bay streets.
- produced a pocket guide and walking tour of Turtle Bay historical and architectural sites.
- has sponsored or supported recent neighborhood events, including a Valentine Party and Dinner; and in December, a Holiday Toy Drive and Party, and Holiday Fest and Tree Lighting. Upcoming events include the Turtle Bay Street Fair and Katharine Hepburn Garden Party. (See Mark Your Calendar, page 2)
- continues its work to beautify the neighborhood through the TBA Tree Program and support of the Turtle Bay Tree Fund, as well as support of community parks.

Parks Committee

With spring on the way, TBA Parks Committee Chairman Marie-Louise Handal invites anyone interested in joining her committee to contact the TBA office. Volunteers are needed to help work in neighborhood parks, and Marie-Louise also plans monthly Saturday morning meetings to hear volunteers' ideas for improving our parks. Times and locations will be posted on TBA's Web site and included in the next newsletter.

Even Safer continued from page 1

increased from 107 to 127, a 19 percent increase. But Capt. Wallace notes that arrests of robbery suspects were up 40 percent over the year before, a sign that the police are aggressively tackling the issue. There have been no murders in the precinct in more than 10 years.

For the city overall, total crime was down 5 percent last year compared with 2004.

Quality-of-Life Issues

While Capt. Wallace emphasizes prevention of major crime must always be the priority, he says, "The fact that we don't have as many crimes in this community as the rest of the city means that we can allocate more of our resources to quality-of-life issues, a big concern of people in this neighborhood."

In addition to the major crime statistics, the precinct keeps a list of 20 quality-of-life operations that are tracked regularly and on a year-to-date basis. Everything from bicycle summonses issued, to removal of unattended homeless carts, to peddling, to bar inspections are tracked in detail.

Noise a Concern

Capt. Wallace recognizes that noise, particularly from Second Avenue bars, is a big concern within Turtle Bay. The precinct's "cabaret" force of nine officers headed by Sergeant John Heihs, patrols the bar scene nightly, communicating with bar owners, aggressively issuing summonses and "testing" the bars with plainclothesmen for underage drinkers and other violations. In addition, the precinct meets formally with bar owners twice a year to review issues and procedures. Based on statistics and fewer complaints from the public, Capt. Wallace believes the situation is improving.

He encourages residents to call the 311 number to register complaints regarding noise and other quality-of-life issues, such as the homeless situation, bicycles on sidewalks, and dogs running loose in the parks. And he highly recommends that

residents attend the precinct's Community Council meetings, held the last Tuesday of every month. "It's a good opportunity for the community to hear what we are focusing on, and it gives us a chance to hear about neighbors' concerns," he says.

Great Community

Capt. Wallace, who has been with the police force 24 years, says the past year has been the best year of his career, due in no small part to what he calls "just a great community." Add to that a "terrific, professional police force and excellent civilian staff," and he says, "What more could I ask for?"

Neighbors interested in learning more about the 17th Precinct, including crime statistics in detail, can visit www.nyc.gov, and search "17th Precinct."

Private Funding for History

The 17th Precinct station house is undergoing a massive renovation to modernize its nearly 40-year-old facilities. In conjunction with the remodeling, many items that record the history of the precinct, including a wall of honor to commemorate officers who have lost their lives serving the community, will be replaced using private funding. The 17th Precinct Community Council asks anyone interested in making a tax-deductible contribution to contact the Council at 212-826-3228.



Commanding Officer of the 17th Precinct, Captain John Wallace (far right) joined the TBA in thanking TBA volunteers at its recent "Salute to Volunteers" reception. To the left of Capt. Wallace is TBA Board member Olga Hoffmann, Police Officer James Meury of the Precinct and TBA volunteer Jacqueline Bourrud.

Garodnick, Lappin Win Council Seats

Dan Garodnick and Jessica Lappin, both Democrats, won the two City Council seats representing the Turtle Bay neighborhood in the November 8th election. They succeed Eva Moskowitz and Gifford Miller, respectively.

Both new councilmembers have been named to the City Council's Land Use Committee, of particular significance in light of the many development/zoning issues facing the neighborhood.

Councilman Garodnick, 33, represents District 4, which covers the Turtle Bay area on the south side of 49th Street and below. He previously was a litigator at the law firm Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison. He is a graduate of Dartmouth College and holds a J.D. degree from the University of Pennsylvania.

Councilwoman Lappin, 30, whose District 5 covers Turtle Bay on the north side of 49th Street and above, formerly was the District Chief of Staff to City Council Speaker Miller. She holds a bachelor's degree in Government from Georgetown University.

Turtle Bay Association

President: William E. Curtis

Vice Presidents: Millie Margiotta, Dolores Marsh, Bruce Silberblatt

Treasurer: Francine Irwin

Secretary: Barbara Connolly

Directors: Jed Abrams,

Ethel Bendove, Bunny Blei,

Meryl Brodsky, Barbara Connolly,

William E. Curtis, Denise Hamilton,

Marie-Louise Handal, Pamela Hanlon,

Olga Hoffmann, Bill Huxley, Richard Irwin,

Millie Margiotta, Dolores Marsh,

Patricia Q. McDougald, Francine Irwin,

Tom Payne, Michael Resnick,

Carol Rinzler, Jeannie Sakol,

Helen Shapiro, Bruce Silberblatt

Turtle Bay News

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*Dan Garodnick's District 4 covers the south side of 49th Street and below; Jessica Lappin's District 5 covers the north side of 49th Street and above.

Community Board Wants More Tunnel Info

Community Board 6, reacting to concerns of residents in the East 50s, has called on the Department of Environmental Protection to provide a "consolidated presentation" for both the proposed location of a shaft for the city's third water tunnel and the routing plans of the connecting water mains.

Some 1,000 residents showed up to protest DEP plans at an early December meeting. The DEP's preferred site for drilling the shaft is city-owned land at the northwest corner of First Avenue and 59th Street.

While there is resident objection to the shaft site, most opposition is centered around the location of the water mains that will connect the shaft to the water tunnel under Third Avenue. This work, which will be dug from the surface over several years, would be more disruptive than digging of the shaft. But as of yet, the city has not indicated which of three routes the water mains would use. CB6 says it wants "full community participation in the decision of the routing of those mains."

Turtle Bay Music School. Performances in March will delight young children. A recital by young students, March 17, 5 p.m. and 6:15 p.m.; concert for flute and piano, with myths from around the world interpreted by the flute, March 18, 3 p.m.; recital by TBMS faculty for flute and piano, March 25, 7 p.m. All events free. Em Lee Concert Hall, 244 East 52nd Street, 212-753-8811; www.tbms.org.

German House. “Berlin-New York; Building a Bridge,” paintings in watercolor and acrylic by Susanne Haun and Andreas Mattern. Feb. 22-March 10. Free. Munich’s Theatre Sundenfall performs “The Lights are Going Out All Over Europe,” a play set in the

summer of 1914. March 2, 6 p.m. Free. 871 United Nations Plaza. Information: www.germany-info.org/newyork. 212-610-9719. Guests to the performance must register in advance. Automated RSVP line is 212-610-9759 or e-mail german-consulate-ku@nyc.net.

Trygve Lie Gallery. Exhibit of Finnish artists, presented jointly with the American Scandinavian Society. Feb. 24-March 26. Free. Gallery hours: Mon.-Thurs. 12-8 p.m.; Fri.-Sun. 12-5 p.m. 317 East 52nd Street. Information: 212-319-0370; www.trygveliegallery.com.

Asian Art at U.N. Works by Japanese painter Kaii Higashiyama and Chinese photographer Wang Wusheng continues on exhibit in the U.N. General Assembly

Visitor’s Lobby through March 10. Open daily 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Free. Information: www.un.org.

Japan Society. New York debut of the highly acclaimed “Island,” music and dance interpretation by the group Pappa Tarahumara. Based on Gabriel Garcia Marquez’ “A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings.” Mar. 2 and 3, 7:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30. Information: 212-832-1155; www.japansociety.org.

Music at St. Peter’s. Jazz each Wednesday, at 1 p.m., St. Peter’s Church at Lexington Avenue and 54th Street. Admission: \$5. Classical concerts by visiting artists, most Tuesdays at 8 p.m. Admission: donation suggested at the door. Information: 212-935-2200; www.saintpeters.org.

- compiled by Rita Rowan

Remember This?

Back in the 1970s at the Grenadier – a trendy restaurant at the corner of First Avenue and 48th Street – pianist and singer Richard Shadroui entertained at his piano bar until late in the evening, playing the tunes of Noel Coward, Ira Gershwin, Cole Porter, Richard Rogers and Lorenz Hart.

Mr. Shadroui left Manhattan in 1980 and the building housing the Grenadier was torn down to make way for the garden area of the apartment building, 100 United Nations Plaza. The Turtle Bay News recently caught up with Mr. Shadroui in his hometown of

Barre, Vermont, where he now has a piano studio and where he also occasionally entertains.

“Turtle Bay was a superb location for an entertainer like me,” says Mr. Shadroui, “The area attracted so many theatre people, musicians and writers.”

He recalls a long list of famous names who came to hear him play, including Mary Martin, producer David Merrick and Truman Capote.

“I look back so fondly on my days there,” he says. In fact, he says he still keeps in touch with many of the Grenadier’s Turtle Bay patrons.

MTA Scales Back

Bowing to community pressure, and perhaps cost concerns, the Metropolitan Transportation Authority has revised plans for its utility tower on East 50th Street, reducing its size by almost two-thirds. The community objected because of potential health and safety risks of the original plan.

Now the tower will fill only half the site, located between Madison and Park Avenues, and rise only 62 feet, down from the original 152 feet. The MTA also will relocate the air conditioning towers, reroute delivery and trash trucks so as not to tie up traffic, and move fuel tanks off the site. The unoccupied part of the site may become a park.

Happy in Turtle Bay

An annual poll of New Yorkers’ attitudes finds that 70 percent of Manhattanites “love” New York City, 17 percent “like” the city, 12 percent have mixed feelings...and *nobody* “dislikes” the city. The “love factor” is the highest since the Quinnipiac University Polling Institute started conducting the poll back in 1994.

So how does Turtle Bay stack up? Well, results aren’t broken out by neighborhood, but Maurice Carroll, director of the Polling Institute, told the Turtle Bay News, “I have every reason to believe Turtle Bay residents are as happy – maybe even happier – than the rest of the island!”

Yes, I want to join the Turtle Bay Association and help support our community’s quality of life.

Annual Membership Dues

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$10 | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$25 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business \$40 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$100 | <input type="checkbox"/> Pacesetter \$250 |



Name _____

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- I would like to become more involved in TBA activities.

Please make your check payable to Turtle Bay Association.

Mail to: Turtle Bay Association, 224 E. 47th St., New York, NY 10017