



TURTLE BAY NEWS

From the Turtle Bay Association, neighborhood association for
Manhattan's Turtle Bay, East Midtown, home of the United Nations.

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TBA President's Letter

What a difference a year makes. Last year at this time, TBA was planning our annual meeting and election of Directors, our annual Holiday Party/Toy Drive and even the annual Valentine Party. At this time, we are in the middle of a pandemic and are facing major racial and economic issues.

During these past months, The Turtle Bay Association has continued to meet the concerns of our neighborhood. We are dealing with the closing and then the re-opening of our businesses; with the homeless, protests and crime in our area.

As the pandemic reaches a new phase here in the fall, TBA has started a program of highlighting businesses, restaurants, and institutions on our website pages as they begin to open up — all this at a time when many of the hotels in the area in contrast, are beginning to close for good. The impact on our area doesn't stop there however. The Vanderbilt Y, facing the possibility of permanently closing itself, entered into a six month contract to establish transitional housing in their building on 47th Street. TBA has received many letters of concern fearing a deterioration of conditions in the neighborhood. To their credit, our elected officials have set up a task force, with TBA being a member, to specifically work to diminish the impact of the homeless on Turtle Bay and the surrounding neighborhoods.

And as you might guess, this great city continues to reinvent itself — pandemic or not — and TBA is still at work keeping up with it all. We continue to monitor the Greater Midtown Rezoning, to make sure

large office towers are not permitted in a designated area near our landmarks, Turtle Bay Gardens and Amster Yard. We continue to support the building of the Greenway — a continuous bike and pedestrian pathway along the East River waterfront. Then there is the matter of the 112 missing trees in the Turtle Bay area — with the City's priorities gone elsewhere — that project is once again on hold. But at the earliest opportunity TBA will be ready to fight for those trees. TBA is still at work keeping up with it all.

The Association is in the final stages of a new and improved website working to increase digital newsletters, membership data and email notices. We should be up and running shortly and will let you know when you can check it out.

We urge all TBA members to stay safe in the next months and to vote in the upcoming General Election on November 3rd.

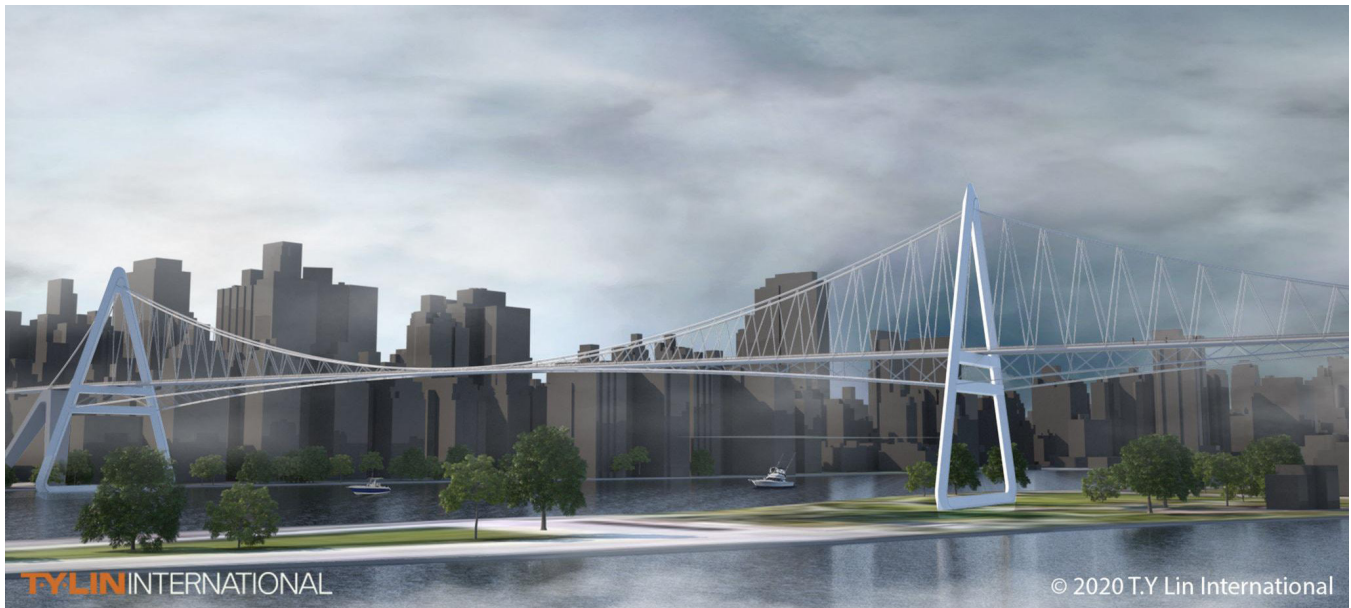
Bill Curtis

TBA Annual Meeting 2020

In Late November or Early December, the Turtle Bay Association will hold its Annual Meeting.

Due to COVID-19, the Annual Meeting will be held differently than in the past.

TBA will update members when we have more information.



A Bridge From Queens to Manhattan, But No Cars Allowed

Excerpt from a NY Times Article by Winnie Hu

*A group of transportation experts want to build a new bridge
in New York City to accommodate a surge in cycling.*

New York City has taken street space away from cars for dozens of pedestrian plazas and for hundreds of miles of bike lanes that make up the largest urban bike network in the nation.

It has significantly expanded those efforts during the coronavirus pandemic, adding more than 40 miles of open streets for pedestrians and cyclists.

A new proposal calls for the city to build the first new bridge to Manhattan in decades — one just for cyclists and pedestrians.

The car-free bridge would connect Midtown Manhattan to Long Island City in Queens.

The bridge would also link to Roosevelt Island.

Called the Queens Ribbon, the \$100 million bridge would be narrower than one designed for cars and would resemble a relatively thin line across the East River, according to the proposal, which was developed by a group of transportation engineers led by Samuel I. Schwartz, a former city traffic commissioner.

London, Paris, Singapore and other cities have built car-free bridges as part of a global movement to make more room for people in urban streetscapes.

The Queens Ribbon would serve the growing bike and foot traffic in Manhattan's central business district

Cycling has surged in recent months as people have traded in the potential health perils of subway and bus rides for those of bike lanes. Citi Bike, the city's bike-share program, averaged 63,481 daily rides for June 15-17, up 45 percent from June 1-3, according to Citi Bike data.

Still, the bridge proposal faces big hurdles. It would require city and state approvals, and a hefty investment at a time when the pandemic has plunged the city into its most dire fiscal crisis in generations. Mr. Schwartz said the new bridge could potentially be funded with private money through a public-private partnership.

His group sees the Queens Ribbon as the first of three pedestrian-and-bike bridges. The other two, which are still being developed, would link Lower Manhattan and Brooklyn, and Manhattan with New Jersey across the Hudson River. Each bridge would be 20 feet wide, and could carry up to 20,000 people a day.



SPOTLIGHT ON TBA BUSINESS MEMBER

Cafe La Cerra Gourmet Brick Oven Pizza

by Michael Zullo

Cafe La Cerra, opened this January by Chef Rino La Cerra originally from Salerno, Italy, where the beautiful Amalfi coast along the southern edge of the Sorrentine Peninsula lies.

After Chef Rino worked in the restaurant business in Italy for 11 years he moved to the U.S. and has been in the business for another 20 years. He opened his first restaurant and cafe in Staten Island, and Midtown 3rd Avenue at East 33rd Street. Now opening his cafe on East 50th Street and 1st Avenue, Chef Rino said: "I want to relax and try to do what I do best with food, all my brick oven thin crust pizzas are baked with fresh vegetables, herbs and real olives.

Cafe La Cerra's Dominican and Arabic coffee are wonderfully rich and full flavorful where you can enjoy outdoors in table set ups which are in compliance with NYS requirements for street and sidewalk service. Some of the menu specialties also offered: chicken, pepperoni and spinach rolls; calzones; garlic bread with fresh garlic and basil; meatball parmigiana; eggplant, chicken, and sausage & pepper hero sandwiches. There are four different salads (Caesar; caprese with fresh mozzarella & basil; house and mesclun with goat cheese).

There's also an attractive catering menu with hot trays and 20 different pizzas including gluten free margherita to order, listed on Cafe La Cerra's website.



Cafe La Cerra offers Turtle Bay Members a 10% discount.

Location: 401 East 50th Street - Midtown

Phone: 646 344 1812 for delivery

Order Online at <https://www.brickovenpizza33.com/>
email: cafelaccerra@aol.com

Hours: Open 7 days a week. Monday - Wednesday
11:00 am to 11:00 pm Thursday 11:00 am to 2:00 pm
Friday - Sunday 11:00 am - 11:00 pm.

Support Your Turtle Bay Neighborhood Business Members

by Michael Zullo

The circumstances of our current reality in dealing with COVID-19 has been hard on everyone, including our local business community, making our Turtle Bay business members' survival of utmost importance. It is sad to walk throughout our neighborhood on 1st - 2nd - 3rd - Lexington Avenues and the side streets from East 42nd to 57th Streets, noticing many businesses not just closed, but gone.

The local shops, restaurants and businesses, are not only providing their valuable services, they are also instilling new buying behaviors and dining patterns for our safety. Therefore, our Association's hope is that we carry on shopping and dining locally in addition to long after all the quarantine orders lift.

Please take a few minutes to visit our website at <https://turtlebay-nyc.org/business-directory/> —for the directory of our Business Members, many are offering discounts to our membership. Let's all make it a priority to carry this camaraderie and togetherness into our post-pandemic world by shopping, dining locally and supporting our business members.



17th Precinct Changes

Welcome Captain Aaron Edwards, who comes to the 17th from the 7th Precinct, where he served as executive officer.

Former Captain Conor Wynne is going to Highway, where he will be the new executive officer. We wish him well and thank him for his service to the 17th Precinct.

Captain Fisher, the 17th's current executive officer, will be going to Midtown North. We will not be getting a new executive officer at this time.





Bill de Blasio
Mayor

Police Department City of New York



Dermot Shea
Police Commissioner

Volume 27 Number 39

CompStat

17th Precinct

Report Covering the Week
9/21/2020 Through 9/27/2020

Crime Complaints

	Week to Date			28 Day			Year to Date*			2 Year	10 Year	27 Year
	2020	2019	% Chg	2020	2019	% Chg	2020	2019	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg	% Chg
Murder	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	***.*	***.*	***.*
Rape	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	8	8	0.0	-27.3	100.0	-27.3
Robbery	2	1	100.0	5	7	-28.6	45	43	4.7	-4.3	-6.2	-90.7
Fel. Assault	6	2	200.0	10	2	400.0	48	75	-36.0	-32.4	9.1	-60.3
Burglary	3	4	-25.0	9	10	-10.0	114	76	50.0	90.0	67.6	-87.3
Gr. Larceny	6	14	-57.1	47	66	-28.8	408	572	-28.7	-21.7	-24.2	-75.5
G.L.A.	0	0	***.*	9	0	***.*	34	10	240.0	70.0	70.0	-92.9
TOTAL	17	21	-19.05	80	85	-5.88	657	784	-16.20	-10.00	-9.00	-82.03
Transit	0	1	-100.0	0	2	-100.0	17	21	-19.0	-34.6	-22.7	***.*
Housing	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	***.*	***.*	***.*
Petit Larceny	32	17	88.2	123	85	44.7	882	763	15.6	5.1	90.5	***.*
Misd. Assault	1	0	***.*	8	19	-57.9	122	187	-34.8	-41.1	-31.1	***.*
UCR Rape*	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	12	12	0.0	-29.4	***.*	***.*
Other Sex Crimes	1	1	0.0	5	4	25.0	29	40	-27.5	-53.2	***.*	***.*
Shooting Vic.	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	***.*	***.*	-100.0
Shooting Inc.	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	0	0	***.*	***.*	***.*	-100.0

Historical Perspective

(Historical perspective is a complete calendar year of data.)

	1990	1993	1998	2001	2019	%Chg '19 vs '01	%Chg '19 vs '98	%Chg '19 vs '93	%Chg '19 vs '90	
Murder	6	0	0	0	10	***.*	***.*	***.*	***.*	Murder
Rape	12	14	7	8	10	25.0	42.9	-28.6	-16.7	Rape
Robbery	740	619	247	149	60	-59.7	-75.7	-90.3	-91.9	Robbery
Fel. Assault	181	161	79	103	96	-6.8	21.5	-40.4	-47.0	Fel. Assault
Burglary	1,412	1,230	548	265	100	-62.3	-81.8	-91.9	-92.9	Burglary
Gr. Larceny	2,910	2,287	1,490	1,312	834	-36.4	-44.0	-63.5	-71.3	Gr. Larceny
G.L.A.	843	639	203	111	16	-85.6	-92.1	-97.5	-98.1	G.L.A.
TOTAL	6,104	4,950	2,574	1,948	1,116	-42.7	-56.6	-77.5	-81.7	TOTAL

Figures are preliminary and subject to further analysis and revision.

As of January 2013, complaints occurring within the jurisdiction of the Department of Correction have been disaggregated from the borough and precinct crime totals and are displayed separately on the Department of Correction CompStat page.

Unless otherwise noted, Crime statistics reflect New York State Penal Law ("NYSPL") definitions and differ from the crime categories used by the FBI Uniform Crime Reporting Program. All Crime statistics are translated to Uniform Crime Reporting categories for submission to the UCR Program.

* Uniform Crime Reporting ("UCR") Rape consists of all crimes defined in the FBI UCR definition of rape.



Remembering Bill Huxley

It is with sadness that we report the passing of Bill Huxley, a Turtle Bay Association Director and long-time President of the Turtle Bay Tree Fund. His work in planting daffodils and begonias in more than 200 tree beds throughout Turtle Bay every year has made a vast contribution to the quality of life in the area. Plans are in place to continue Bill's legacy with the on-going fiscal support from our Turtle Bay neighbors, participating foundations, elected officials, and the city.

Bill's contribution to beautify the community didn't end there. He spearheaded the program of placing TBA signature trash receptacles on Second Avenue, along with systematic trash pickups. Not only did he want flowers for the neighborhood, but he felt we should also keep it clean.

Bill had many interests. He supported UNICEF, the Roundabout Theater, and the Friends of Dag Hammarskjöld Park but nothing came close to his mission to plant flowers and cultivate trees in Turtle Bay. A tour with him of Turtle Bay would reveal an encyclopedia-like knowledge of Turtle Bay tree history. Finally, it is no surprise that Bill was a working advocate for the City's Million Tree NYC planting project. Something we all will need to carry on with.

Bill Huxley will be missed, but we will remember him through the on-going work of the Turtle Bay Tree Fund.

Thank you Bill Huxley.



Welcome New TBA Business Members

Bar Kogi

Easy Charter Bus

H & D Physical Therapy

Louie's Chicken

Sutton Place Social Magazine

**Yoga with Alicia
at Peter Detmold Park**

Check the TBA website for a listing of all current TBA business members.

TBA Newsletter Editorial Committee

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