

Turtle Bay News

A Publication of the Turtle Bay Association

Fall 2015 Vol. 58, No. 4

Turtle Bay Residents Protest Supermarket Closing

BY LEE FRANKEL

Plans to replace the Food Emporium at Second Avenue and 51st Street with a CVS drugstore motivated more than 3,000 Turtle Bay residents to sign a TBA petition protesting the changeover.

The TBA took up the cause in early November after Food Emporium employees requested support in fighting the store's closure. Volunteers, led by TBA vice president Millie Margiotta, collected signatures at a table in front of the store. Residents who came by were vocal in their displeasure with the plan. The TBA also alerted elected representatives and news outlets, bringing coverage from Our Town and DNAinfo.com.

The closing of Food Emporiums in the city has been part of parent company A&P's bankruptcy proceedings, placing store leases up for grabs to the highest bidders. Key Food was outbid by CVS for the Food Emporium in Turtle Bay, which closed its

doors in late November. Employees lost their jobs, and the increasingly populous neighborhood will have only two bona fide supermarkets widely spread out within the area from the East River to Lexington Avenue, between 43rd and 53rd Streets.

CVS will be the eighth large-chain drugstore located in the same area, each offering the same products and services at basically the same prices. While drugstore

product offerings overlap with supermarkets in certain food categories – notably beverages, snack foods and some prepared food products – they cannot replace full-service supermarkets where fresh food is sold.

The TBA has contacted CVS to encourage the expansion of the store's inventory into more fresh foods. Council Member Dan Garodnick wrote a formal letter to the CEO of CVS requesting that the store add more fresh fruits and vegetables to its offerings.

The Turtle Bay neighborhood protest is being echoed by communities around the city. There is general anger at the intrusion of large-chain retail stores, banks, and unaffordable residential towers on traditional neighborhoods. The questions are: Where is all this going, and can it be stopped before real New Yorkers completely lose their city?



TBA Collects Signatures. Photo: Madeline Thompson/DNAinfo.com.

TBA Annual Meeting A Success

The proceedings of the 2015 Annual Meeting, on November 9, demonstrated to both the TBA and its members just how much we had accomplished since the year before:

- The deployment of 16 large trash cans, using grant money provided by Dan Garodnick and serviced by the The Doe Fund.
- A highly informative talk by Pam Hanlon about the history and landmarks of Turtle Bay, at Japan Society, with the co-sponsorship of the NYC Landmarks50 Alliance and Japan Society.
- A successful Business Breakfast that brought local merchants together to share ideas and hear updates from the



Rep. Carolyn Maloney receives honor from TBA President Bill Curtis.

17th Precinct, Sanitation Department and other city agencies.

- Well-attended gatherings of neighborhood residents at our Valentine's Day Love Thy Neighborhood party; and the Katharine Hepburn Birthday Party, co-sponsored by Friends of Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza.
- Support for the Grand Central Branch of the New York Public Library, by helping it to extend its lease, with the assistance of Dan Garodnick.
- A protest against the closing of the Food Emporium at Second Avenue and 51st Street and its replacement by a CVS.

Representative Carolyn Maloney and

continued on page 3

Newsorthy Notes

We Remember

Archibald E. King, Jr., died on August 19, 2015 at the age of 84. "Archie" was a founding member of the Turtle Bay Association, served as Chairman of the Vanderbilt YMCA (its Early Childhood Center is dedicated to him), and actively served the community for many years. He is survived by his wife, Marion, their four children and eight grandchildren.

Helen Shapiro died on October 10, 2015 at the age of 94. She was an active member of the Turtle Bay Association for many years.

Terence Cardinal Cooke-Cathedral Library Branch Now Open

The branch has reopened with services that include computers and laptops for public use, wireless Internet access (Wi-Fi), scanners, and black/white printers. 560 Lexington Avenue, 212-752-3824. Library Manager: Susan Montross. For more information visit <http://www.nypl.org/locations/cathedral>.



Christine Quinn to Head Group for Homeless Women and Children

The former speaker of New York's City Council, Christine C. Quinn, has been named leader of one of the largest non-profit organizations serving homeless women and children in New York City. Win (Women in Need) now assists more than 57,000 people, including more than 23,000 children, numbers that are growing. To learn more, read the article in The New York Times, September 17, 2015.

Assault at Bar in Turtle Bay

On September 12, at about 1 a.m., a man and two women began yelling anti-gay

slurs and obscenities, then attacked a 27-year-old woman as she and her mother ate at Bar Kogi, on Second Avenue, between 50th and 51st Streets. The woman, Tiffany Santiago, was thrown to the ground and dragged across the floor by her legs, causing cuts and bruises on her knees. The attackers, reportedly drunk, then fled. The NYPD published pictures of the assailants in The Daily News based on a surveillance video. (Source: DNAinfo.com)

Brawl Among Servicemen Leads to Stabbing Outside Neighborhood Bar

A Marine was hospitalized after being slashed in the back by an Army soldier during a drunken brawl, on November 11, at Turtle Bay NYC bar. The bar is located on Second Avenue, between 52nd and 53rd Streets. According to The Daily News, as of November 12, no arrests had been made.

Welcome New Merchant Members

Hair Salons

◆ **Camouflage Coiffures**
673 Lexington Avenue
917-439-5559
10% Discount with TBA membership card

Real Estate

Judy Reiser
Douglas Elliman Real Estate
205 East 42nd Street, 6th Floor
212-692-6125 / 917-656-0938
judyreiser@ellima.com

Restaurants

Hot Kitchen
251 East 53rd Street
212-588-8826
hotkitchenny.com
Hotkitchenny@gmail.com

Schools

CATS of 49th Street Children's Athletic Training School
235 East 49th Street
212-832-1833
catsturtlebay@gmail.com

Editorial Committee

Editor: Lee Frankel
Layout: Hilary Black
Photographs: Lee Frankel, Vivian Gordon

TBA Who's Who

Turtle Bay Association

224 East 47th Street
New York, NY 10017
Phone: 212-751-5465
Fax: 212-751-4941
Email: office@turtlebay-nyc.org
Website: www.turtlebay-nyc.org

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

Board of Directors

Officers

President: William E. Curtis
Secretary: Grace L. Perry
Treasurer: Dick Irwin
Vice Presidents: Millie Margiotta
Dolores Marsh, Bruce Silberblatt

Directors

Ethel Bendove, Bunny Blei,
Meryl Brodsky, Orin Buck,
William E. Curtis, Lee Frankel,
Denise Hamilton,
Marie-Louise Handal,
Dee Howard, Bill Huxley,
Dick Irwin, Mary F. Marangi,
Millie Margiotta,
Mark P. Markowski,
Dolores Marsh, Pat McDougald,
Grace L. Perry, Michael Resnick,
Carol Rinzler, Bruce Silberblatt

Honorary Emeriti

Barbara Connolly

Community Calendar

17th Precinct Community Council

Open Meeting
Last Tuesday every month, 6 pm
Sutton Place Synagogue
225 East 51st Street
212-826-3228

(No meetings July, August, December)

Community Board 6

Full Board Meeting
Second Wednesday every month,
7 pm
NYU Medical Center
550 First Avenue
212-319-3750

Now live online at
<http://wp.cbsix.org/live>

Local Fire Station Celebrates 150th Anniversary

Part Three of a Three-Part Article

BY LEE FRANKEL

Engine 8 Ladder 2 Battalion 8 celebrated its 150th Anniversary on the brisk autumn morning of October 19. A proud group of New Yorkers was there to honor and thank officers and firefighters serving our neighborhood out of this fire station, both now and in the past.

The commemoration began with a performance of traditional songs by the FDNY Emerald Society of Pipes and Drums.

The audience heard from FDNY Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro and a number of officers working at the station.

Among those attending were Rep. Carolyn Maloney, who spoke of her push to renew the law, set to expire soon, that provides health benefits for 9/11 first responders. State Senator Liz Krueger also spoke, emphasizing how much New Yorkers rely on our firefighters and their rapid and expert response to emergencies.

Everyone enjoyed the lunch that followed, including a cake in the form of a fire truck.



Rep. Maloney presents commemorative plaque to (Fr. left) Captain Stephen Marsar Ladder Co. 2, Captain Sean Murphy Engine Co. 8, and Battalion 8 Command Mark Rosenbaum.



FDNY Emerald Society of Pipes and Drums plays traditional tunes.



FDNY Commissioner Daniel A. Nigro.



Senior NYPD officers are honored. (Second fr. left is current Captain of Engine Co. 8 Sean Murphy.)

Annual Meeting continued from page 1

Council Member Dan Garodnick both spoke at the meeting and updated members on relevant news from Washington, D.C. and Manhattan's 4th Council District, respectively. Representative Maloney underlined her push to renew the law that provides health benefits for 9/11 first responders. Dan filled us in on recent zoning issues in Stuyvesant Town Peter Cooper Village and the status of plans for Midtown East re-zoning.

The delicious refreshments, enjoyed by all, came from Elite Food Bar, located on East 48th Street.



Council Member Dan Garodnick.

UPDATE

Preparations for Super Tower in Sutton Area Take a Step Forward

Bauhouse Group is set to pull down buildings 428-432 East 58th Street, part of the total parcel of land intended for the development of a 90-story residential tower at the location.

Fortunately for the Midtown East area, including Turtle Bay, the fight against the project is alive and well.

According to District 5 Council Member Ben Kallos, who has been working against the plan, "Demolition seems premature considering the developer doesn't even have funding lined up, but, for that matter, demolition of the buildings doesn't impact our ability to stop the project. All it does is leave an empty lot for the foreseeable future."

The TBA is an active member of the coalition of neighborhood groups fighting the project.

Thank-You from Y Kid Warms Our Hearts

The TBA donates funds to the Vanderbilt Y and early in the fall, president Bill Curtis received this thank-you note from one of the children.

Dear Bill,

My name is Julissa. I attended the Vanderbilt YMCA Summer Day Camp this summer.

The best part of camp was learning new things. I learned how to do a front flip. Thank you for donating to the Annual Campaign and helping to send Vanderbilt Kids, like me, to camp this summer.

Thank you,

Julissa, 10 years old



Holiday Tree in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza



Elected Representatives Contact Information

Carolyn Maloney
U.S. Representative,
NYC's 12th District

Manhattan District Office

1651 Third Avenue, Ste 311
New York, NY 10128-3679
T: 212-860-0606

F: 212-860-0704

Email: contact through website,
<http://maloney.house.gov>

Liz Krueger

NY 28th Senate District

District Office

1850 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10128
T: 212-490-9535

F: 212-490-2151

Email: liz@lizkrueger.com

Dan Quart

NY Assembly Member, District 73

District Office

353 Lexington Ave., Ste 704
New York, NY 10016
T: 212-605-0937

F: 212-605-9948

Email: quartd@assembly.state.ny.us

Daniel Garodnick

NYC Council Member District 4

District Office

211 East 43rd Street, Ste 1205
New York, NY 10017
T: 212-818-0580

F: 212-818-0706

Email: garodnicknyc@gmail.com

*The board of the
Turtle Bay Association
wishes our members and
neighbors peace, prosperity
and well-being for the New Year.*



TBA MEMBERSHIP COUPON

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

Annual Membership Dues

- | | | |
|--|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior \$15 | <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 _____

Address _____ Apt _____

City/State/Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Email _____

- ☐ 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

BOOK ORDER FORM

Manhattan's Turtle Bay
Story of a Midtown Neighborhood
A Contemporary History of Turtle Bay
Arcadia Publishing • 160 pages; 50 photos
\$15.00

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____

Enclosed is my check for \$_____ for _____ book/s,
plus \$3 per book for postage/handling

Make check payable to:

Turtle Bay Association

Mail to:

**Turtle Bay Association, 224 East 47th Street,
New York, NY 10017**

Sales proceeds benefit the Turtle Bay Association.