

Turtle Bay News

A Publication of the Turtle Bay Association

Spring 2015 Vol. 58, No. 2

Carol Ann Rinzler Honored as New York State Woman of Distinction

Following her nomination by Senator Liz Krueger, TBA director Carol Ann Rinzler was officially named to the New York State Senate's prestigious 2015 list of Women of Distinction on May 6.

Senator Krueger observed, "I'm proud to be able to nominate Carol for recognition as a Woman of Distinction. With a long career as a writer, activist and active community member, she certainly fits the bill. In all her work, whether spreading understanding of nutrition and health, fighting for the rights of patients, or advocating for her neighborhood, Carol continues to be an exemplar of civic engagement and service".

Carol Ann Rinzler is the author of more than 20 books on health, including "Nutrition for Dummies" (6th edition due in 2015-16); "The New Complete Book of Food" with co-authors Manfred Kroger



Carol Ann Rinzler.

and Jane E. Brody; the award-winning "Estrogen and Breast Cancer: A Warning for Women"; and "Leonardo's Foot", which a reviewer for the American Association for the Advancement of Science described as "some of the best writing about science for the non-scientist" he had encountered in recent years.

In her activism, she uses a personal email list reaching physicians, administrators, legislators and patient advocates across the country urging support for medical issues such as the amelioration of the Two Midnight Rule which has put Medicare payments at risk for hospital patients put into "observation" status.

In civic life, she served as a member of Manhattan Community Board 6, and she and her late husband, Perry Luntz, founded the Manhattan Neighborhood Council in 1993. Currently, she is a director of the

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Raising the Roof

BY BRUCE SILBERBLATT

It's easy to talk about what New York City needs in the perpetual quest to keep its economy vibrant and amenities up-to-date. The process by which plans become reality is frequently opaque and calls for constant

scrutiny as money and politics face off.

All development and rezoning proposals are reviewed by the Department of City Planning under the Uniform Land Use Review Procedure. Right now, in Manhattan, in or near Turtle Bay, there are three major zoning changes at various stages in the review process. The TBA is closely tracking these and their implications. This is our latest report.

1 Vanderbilt Place

On May 6, a key City Council subcommittee (including our Council Member Dan Garodnick), approved with some modifications the 1,400-foot-tall office tower proposed for the block between Vanderbilt and Madison Avenues, East



Rendering of 1 Vanderbilt. Photo from Crain's courtesy Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates.

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Note the Event

TBA Spring Street Fair

Saturday, June 20, 11 am - 4 pm

Lexington Avenue (42nd/54th)

All proceeds go to local charities

The Landmarks of Turtle Bay and the People Who Created Them

Tuesday, June 23rd at 6:30 pm

An illustrated talk by Pam Hanlon, author of *Manhattan's Turtle Bay: Story of a Midtown Neighborhood*

Followed by light refreshments at Japan Society
333 East 47th Street

Limited seating by reservation only through the Turtle Bay Association
212-751-5465

Coming in Early August National Night Out Against Crime

Dag Hammarskjöld Plaza
(East 47th, First/Second)

Community Tables, Elected Officials
Sponsored by 17th Precinct Community Council
For information call 212-826-3228

Jessica Lappin's Rising Star

By LEE FRANKEL

When Jessica Lappin completed her two-term stint as City Councilmember for District 5, followed by a bid for Manhattan Borough President, she missed not a beat. Appointed in early 2013 as President of the Alliance for Downtown New York – the city's largest Business Improvement District – and its sister organization the Downtown Lower Manhattan Association, her profile has been rising in tandem with her civic commitments.

Now, Crain's New York Business has named Ms. Lappin to its list of "Forty Under Forty", Class of 2015, a group of young leaders who run the gamut of public and private enterprise, social services, politics, the professions, and the arts. No one deserves the honor more. At the Turtle Bay Association we came to know her well, during her six years as Councilmember, through her unfailing presence and outstanding work on behalf of our community.

In a meeting at the Downtown Alliance, on March 23, Senator Charles Schumer singled out Ms. Lappin and the Alliance for helping coordinate the lobbying campaign that led the city to earmark \$8 million in



Jessica Lappin with Senator Chuck Schumer and real estate developer Larry Silverstein.

capital funds for the design and implementation of flood protection in Battery Park. Mr. Schumer also committed himself to seeking funding at all levels of government to storm-proof Lower Manhattan and assure its resiliency.

Ms. Lappin is engaged in helping to secure Manhattan's downtown area: its infrastructure, population, employment potential and, not least, protection from floods. In speaking of the challenge, she said that it will call for "a thoughtful plan, developed by experts with meaningful community input, and a source of funding to implement it."

Raising the Roof continued from page 1

42nd and East 43rd Streets. We have serious concerns about the zoning precedents – and lack of equity – implicit in the project. At 64 stories, the building would dwarf and overwhelm the magnificent Chrysler Building and Grand Central Terminal, both important and beloved landmarks.

The proposal, expected to be approved by the DCP and the full council by the end of May, awards the developer of this behemoth 550,000 square feet (part of the building's total 1.8 million gross square feet) in exchange for \$10 million that will go toward the total \$220 million budget for improvements to the 42nd Street/Grand Central subway complex. Given that the rental generated by the extra square footage will be worth far more than that – the going rate for Class A office space in Midtown is \$75 per square foot – each year for the life of the building, it's a great deal for

the developer, but a losing one for New Yorkers.

A total of five blocks is included in the plan, which will also allow developers to double the maximum size of buildings on the four other blocks to the west of the transit hub.

Faults in Rezoning Plans for Affordable Housing

An increase in a building's height usually results in an increase in floor area, but not so on low-rise residential side streets in Turtle Bay, where developers could increase building heights by ten feet with no corresponding increase in floor area, by raising the ceiling heights. The intention alleged by the city is to make it more profitable to build affordable housing, but the plan might encourage mischief by developers.

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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, Bunney Blei,
Meryl Brodsky, Orin Buck,
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Denise Hamilton,
Marie-Louise Handal,
Anita Harvey, 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
Helen Shapiro

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>

A Firefighter's Life Really Means Get Up And Go

Part Two of a Three-Part Article

BY LEE FRANKEL IN AN INTERVIEW WITH CAPTAIN STEPHEN MARSAR

What do firefighters do when they're not working a fire or emergency scene? If you think they just hang around, think again. Like any family, they cook and eat together. They have cots and a TV for much-needed R&R. But the fact is they're always at work, even when they're "home" at the firehouse where the P.A. system carries safety messages and, sadly, death announcements.



There are two tours of duty a day – from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. The firefighters work a 24-hour shift, with two to three days off in between. A typical 24-hour period involves 12 to 15 calls, although the number of calls within some 24-hour periods rose as high as 30 this past January and February.

To preserve their edge and readiness, they begin each shift by inspecting and maintaining a multitude of complex equipment, including critically important air tanks, and spend at least an hour drilling on tasks. Each firefighter is an expert at



Handheld extinguishers for small fires.



Adapters & fittings to connect hoses to the multitude of building sprinklers & standpipes.



The pole is still used to get downstairs fast.



Boots and pants are attached to save time.

each of many specialized jobs required for a flexible, rapid and effective team response in complex, dangerous and unpredictable situations.

As a firefighter you might drive the truck; enter the premises and search for the fire and people who are trapped; handle a huge array of tools to open hydrants, attach hoses and break down structures; wield the hoses; understand how to use the water pressure controls on the high-rise pumper/engine; raise and climb ladders and, possibly, carry someone down to safety; and provide emergency medical care for the injured. This is a partial list.

When the alarm rings, firefighters must have the get-up-and-go, literally, to get up and go. Their shoe laces are loose, so they can step right out of their shoes and into "Bunker Gear" that includes already-attached boots and pants, and coats that sit ready near the trucks. They don their helmets and air tanks, jump into the trucks, and they're on their way. Upon return from an emergency, they once again check, clean and ready their equipment for the next alarm.

The team also reviews how the situation unfolded, always on the lookout for ways



Helmets and coats hang ready for use.

to shave time and improve performance. Each new shift debriefs the one before.

At every scene an incident commander takes charge of operations. The Engine truck carries one officer and four firefighters; the Ladder, one officer and five firefighters. Our own firehouse is staffed by two captains, six lieutenants, four battalion chiefs, and about 50 firefighters. Its insignia features the wise and wistful Snoopy; a beagle named Max was not on duty the day I visited.

Our next issue will mark the 150th Anniversary celebration of our local Engine Co. 8 and Ladder Co. 2, as well as that of the entire FDNY. Keep an eye out for related events.



Forcible entry tools are the "Keys to the City" for firefighters.

Historical Q&A

Q. Why do older firehouses feature circular stairways?

A. To keep the horses that used to pull the fire wagons from going upstairs.

Q. Why were Dalmatians the firehouse dogs of choice?

A. Originally from Croatia and used since early times in a wide range of pursuits, Dalmatians are highly compatible with horses. Taken up in England and later, in the U.S. as carriage dogs, they easily adapted to working alongside horsedrawn fire wagons.

The Dalmation today remains the mascot of Pi Kappa Alpha, the international fraternity of firefighters.



This hose draws out carbon monoxide fumes that build up from idling engines inside the fire station. In prior times, carbon monoxide fumes and diesel exhaust caused cancer and other serious illness in some firefighters.

Spotlight on Local Business BY CANDI OBRENTZ

Foxy John's Bar & Kitchen

143 East 47th Street

646-838-5534

www.foxyjohns.com

Discount 10% with TBA membership card

A Gift to Turtle Bay

When you live and work in Turtle Bay, as I do, it's a bonus to find a new restaurant with a fantastic atmosphere and an interesting menu. Foxy John's is one of the newest TBA business members and the latest introduction from the restaurant group that owns Pig'n Whistle.

General Manager Keith Curistan gave me a tour of the two-story venue with its relaxed vibe, exposed brick and beamed ceilings, comfortable seating at the bar, big-screen TVs and a roomy dining area underneath a vaulted ceiling. The second floor offers more space for dining and drinking, with another bar and many tables. Throughout the restaurant is a choice of areas suitable for hosting private and semi-private events.

If you're wondering why I call Foxy John's "a gift", wonder no more! The second floor features floor-to-ceiling windows open to a balcony. What New Yorker can resist dining al fresco? For those who prefer a quieter experience, the sound system in the open and airy back room, on the first floor, can be controlled. Sports fans will find an



abundance of TV screens for watching, and music lovers will enjoy the live band entertainment on Saturday nights.

The creative menu has something for everyone, including mouth-watering steaks, burgers, seafood and vegetarian options like penne pasta, and kale, quinoa and avocado salad. Fan favorites are the blackened cod tacos, tequila and lime mussels, Black Angus burger and salmon club with bacon. Patrons can also choose from a huge list of handcrafted cocktails, wine, spirits and more than 30 beers available in cans, bottles or on tap. Right now, Foxy John's is offering an all-day Happy Hour.

If you'd like to learn the meaning of the name, "Foxy John", drop by and discover this satisfying addition to eating out in Turtle Bay. TBA members have another "gift" in store: Foxy John's offers us a 10% discount on the entire bill, when dining.



Welcome New Merchant Members

Barbers

Premium Barber Shop

299 East 52nd Street

212-935-3066

premiumbarbershop.com

premiumbarbershop@gmail.com

\$5 off \$22.95

Framing

Sutton Place Frame Shop, Inc.

998 First Avenue

212-355-3840

suttonplaceframe.com

spfs998@aol.com

Home Services

Organize with Ease

319 East 50th Street

212-751-9269

Randy Goldstein

Places of Worship

Hope Church NYC - Midtown

244 East 52nd Street

(Turtle Bay Music School)

347-915-4673, www.hopemidtown.org

Contact: Drew Hyun

Real Estate

Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Catherine L. James

2524 Riverside Avenue

Seafood, NY 11783-3108

954-604-8530

Halstead Property LLC

Vincent Smith

831 Broadway

New York, NY 10003-4729

973-432-3788

Free home assessments for any home owner

Restaurants

Bistango at the Kimberly Hotel

145 East 50th Street

212-888-4121

www.bistangonyc.com

10% discount with member card

Foxy John's Bar & Kitchen

143 East 47th Street

646-838-5534, www.foxyjohns.com

Keith Curistan, Manager

10% discount with member card

La Villetta

398 East 52nd Street

212-829-0003

ls11106@gmail.com

lavillettanyc.com

10% discount with member card

Retail Goods

Resto Presto™

The 3-in-1 portable, compact mat that you can sit on, sit under and wear!

www.restopresto.com

Cell: 917-207-9359

Candi Obrentz, Creator

candi@restopresto.com

New Discount Offer

Madison Jewelers

400 Madison Avenue

212-287-9049

www.madisonallenm.com

25% discount



Bill Curtis Speaks to 17th Precinct Community Council

TBA President Bill Curtis spoke at the meeting of the 17th Precinct Community Council on April 28.

A large audience of citizens came from areas throughout the precinct, including Turtle Bay, Sutton Area, Murray Hill and Kips Bay, to discuss a range of issues with the NYPD: crime, quality-of-life, traffic and bicycle control, and homelessness in their neighborhoods.

Neighborhood Love at TBA Valentine Party

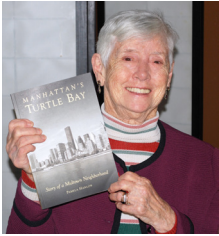
By CANDI OBRENTZ

More than 60 friends and neighbors turned out for the TBA's 31st Annual "Love Thy Neighborhood" Valentine Party, on February 9. Hosted by Piccolo Fiore Ristorante Italiano, guests enjoyed appetizers, a three-course meal, wine and the chance to win one of the terrific door prizes.

The TBA was pleased to welcome Gale Brewer, Manhattan Bor-

ough President; Scott Stringer, NYC Comptroller; Captain Clint McPherson and Executive Officer Fred Corden, of the NYPD 17th Precinct; and Captain Stephen Marsar, FDNY Engine 8, Ladder 2.

Wonderful door prizes were donated by Salon Amici, the 17th Precinct, the FDNY Engine 8, Ladder 2 Companies, RestoPresto, Madison Jewelers and the TBA itself. We thank everyone for their generosity. Piccolo Fiore, a TBA Business Member, treated us like family with excellent service, delicious food and a fantastic venue for this yearly tradition. Neighborly love, indeed.



Captain Stephen Marsar, with TBA member, displaying FDNY hat and tee shirt.



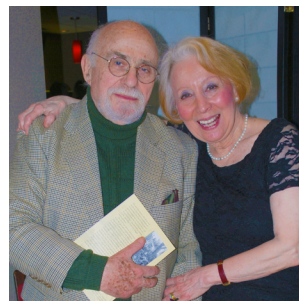
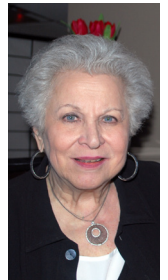
Scott Stringer, NYC Comptroller, and Bill Curtis, TBA President.



Deputy Inspector Clint McPherson and Executive Officer Captain Paul Lanot of the 17th Precinct.



Gale Brewer, Manhattan Borough President.



Arts & Culture

Turtle Bay Music School

244 East 52nd Street
212-753-8811 tbms.org



2014 Messiah Play Sing Along, image from Facebook.

Free Artist Series

Fridays, at 7 pm, in Em Lee Concert Hall. Free and open to the public. Followed by meet-the-artist reception. RSVP: info@tbms.org

May 22

Deborah Auer, Jazz Vocals. Auer returns with her ever-popular evening of “Jazz and Cocktails”.

May 29

Renee Heitmann, Soprano. Performance of different settings of mignon text/lieder in this lecture recital.

June 5

Paula Biedma, Piano. A program described as “Composers Inspiring Composers” that explores piano variations and fantasia.

June 12

Matt Graybil, Piano. A performance of music from three Russian ballets by Igor Stravinsky arranged for solo piano.

St. Bart's

325 Park Avenue/East 51st
Purchase tickets at <http://mmpaf.org> or box office, 212-378-0248

Free Midtown Concert Series

Sponsored by Gotham Early Music Scene, supporting music of the 18th century and earlier. Each concert is 30 to 40 minutes long. No tickets or reservations needed.
Thursdays, 1:15, Chapel.

May 14

The Sebastians, Over the Alps. The critically-acclaimed period ensemble performs works by Biber, Corelli, Fontana and Handel, exploring the emergence of the instrumental styles of 17th-century Italy and the adaptation of Italian styles in 18th-century Austro-Germany. Players: Daniel S. Lee, violin; Ezra Seltzer, cello; Jeffrey Grossman, harpsichord.

May 21

Rebel, The Intimate Mozart: Works for

Fortepiano, Violin, Viola and Violoncello.

The program will juxtapose an obscure chamber work by Mozart (his D minor Adagio and Fugue for String Trio) with one of his most celebrated chamber pieces, the Quartet for Fortepiano, Violin, Viola and Cello in G minor, K 478. Players: Jörg-Michael Schwarz, violin; Karen Marie Marmer, viola; John Moran, cello; Dongsok Shibn, fortepiano.

May 28

White Sparrow, How Should I Your True Love Know? A concert of ballads and songs from Shakespeare's plays. Follow some of the bard's most famous characters as they guide you through the popular music of the Elizabethan era and join in if you like. Players: LuteDebi Wong, voice; Solmund Nystabakk, lute.

June 4

AVLA HARMONIAE, Renaissance and Baroque Music from the Iberian Peninsula. Music written specifically for this trio's instruments by Diego Ortiz (c.1510 - c.1570), Antonio Correa Braga (fl.17th century), José Herrando (c.1720-63), and Luis Misón (1727-66). Players: Sang Joon Park, flauto traverso; Martha McGaughey, viola da gamba; Arthur Haas, harpsichord.



From avlaharmoniae.blogspot.com

June 11

Kleine Kammermusik, Baroque Virtuosity: Music by Zelenka, Dornel and Fasch. Experience the dazzling acrobatic music of the baroque courts composed for oboes, bassoon and bass. Players: Geoffrey Burgess, oboe; Meg Owens, oboe; Stephanie Corwin, bassoon; Rebecca Humphrey Diederich, cello; Leon Schelhase, harpsichord.

St. Peter's Church

619 Lexington Avenue/54th Street
saintpeters.org

The York Theatre Company

Lower Level at St. Peter's
A 175-seat house that offers excellent visibility of the stage, free of obstruction, from all seats. Wheelchair accessible seating is limited, so please book early; hearing assistive devices are not available.

May 19 - June 21

Cagney. This high-stepping new musical follows the life of the screen's greatest tough guy

— a consummate performer who could sing, dance and act many roles. Broadway veteran Robert Creighton stars and leads a cast of six. The show features a new original score (augmented by George M. Cohan songs from the classic film “Yankee Doodle Dandy”) and show-stopping song-and-dance numbers. Book by Peter Colley; music and lyrics by Robert Creighton and Christopher McGovern; directed by Bill Castellino; choreographed by Joshua Bergasse. Non-member adult tickets, \$67.50. Individuals 35 and under, \$25 at the box office. Check website/box office for performance times and info about ticket exchanges. Buy tickets at stpeters.org; the York Theatre box office (church entry on 54th St., Lex/Third); or call 212-935-5820, open M-F, 12-6 pm.



Japan Society

333 East 47th Street
212-832-1155 japansociety.org

Box Office Hours: Mon. - Fri., 11 am - 6 pm, Weekends during exhibitions, 11 am - 5 pm

Gallery Hours: Tues. - Thurs., 11 am - 6 pm, Fri., 11 am - 9 pm, Sat. and Sun., 11 am - 5 pm
Closed on Mondays and major holidays.

Gallery Admission: \$12; students and seniors \$10; members and children under 16 free. Free to all on Fri. nights, 6 pm - 9 pm.

Exhibition

March 13 - June 7

Life of Cats: Selections from the Hiraki Ukiyo-e Collection. Since they arrived in Japan in the mid-sixth century, aboard Japanese ships transporting sacred Buddhist scriptures from China, cats have proceeded to purr and paw their way into the heart of Japanese life, folklore and art. Ninety ukiyo-e woodblock prints from the Edo Period (1615-1867) are on loan, complemented by prints, paintings, sculptures and other works borrowed from U.S. collections.

Workshop

Sat., May 16

Session 1, 12:30 - 2:30 pm

Session 2, 3 - 5 pm

Caturday Craft Day. Maneki neko, or the “beckoning cat”, is believed to bring luck and fortune to those who own one. Participants will view the Life of Cats exhibition for inspiration to create and decorate their own maneki neko. Artist-educator Luned Palmer leads the program with her sample maneki nekos. Cat base, paint and pens are provided. Consider bringing your own favorite kitty stickers, stamps or textiles to add a personal touch.

Arts & Culture

Ticket includes gallery admission. No experience needed. Both sessions offer the same program, but at different times. Tickets: \$40/\$35 members, students and seniors.



Tsukioka Yoshitoshi (1839–1892). Courtesy Hiraki Ukiyo-e Foundation.

Lecture

Wed., June 10, 6:30 pm

Fumihiko Maki: The Construction of Place. Throughout his career, the Pritzker Prize-winning architect has focused on maintaining several major principles in his designs, regardless of the location, type or scale of his projects. He will discuss these principles and recent projects, including 4 World Trade Center in New York, MediaCorp in Singapore, The Bihar Museum in Patna, India, The Aga Khan Museum in Toronto, and projects in Japan. Followed by a reception. Tickets: \$15/\$12 members, students and seniors.



Utagawa Kunisada (Toyokuni III: 1786–1865), Sparrows in Bamboo. Courtesy Hiraki Ukiyo-e Foundation.

Grand Central Library

135 East 46th Street (Lexington/Third)
212-621-0670
nysl.org/locations/grand-central
Fully accessible to wheelchairs.
All programs are free unless noted.

Monthly Meditation

Mondays, May 11 and June 8, 5:30 pm
Community Room

Meditation for Body, Mind, and Spirit.

Join speakers for this monthly series as they discuss the extraordinary ability of meditation to reduce stress-related responses, improve concentration, enhance clarity of thought and mental equilibrium. They will also present a simple, yet powerful, meditation technique that can enrich one's well being.



Tues., May 19, 12:15 pm
Community Room

Public Speaking Workshop. This is an essential skill in today's workplace and a valuable ability to have to in whatever you're

doing. The workshop is led by experienced public speakers in a supportive environment. All materials are provided.

Tues., May 19, 5:30 pm

After Hours Book Club: The Children Act, by Ian McEwan. Read the book and join in the lively discussion.

Awaiting Word on Future of NYPL Grand Central Branch

Many residents of Turtle Bay and people who work in the area depend on the Grand Central Library, opened as a temporary NYPL branch in 2008. Last year, more than 250,000 items were checked out from the branch, and patrons attended nearly 400 programs.

The new 53rd Street Library is slated to open at the end of 2015; at that time, the NYPL will consider options for the Grand Central branch, with the goal of maintaining a high quality of library service in the midtown area.

To support our library, visit Investinlibraries.org to learn about this year's advocacy campaign, help fill out as many letters as possible (quantity counts) and call your local city councilmember.

Raising the Roof *continued from page 2*

Review of Air Rights Transfers

As it stands, the imaginary floor area (air) above low buildings can be transferred to similar zoning districts next door, or, in cases of landmarks, across the street to make a building taller than would otherwise be allowed. A notorious example of this practice in Turtle Bay is the height of Trump World Tower. The process has favored developers, and the city says it wants to make it more equitable.

It is too early to view the details of the DCP review the air rights issue, but changes could be of great importance in Turtle Bay on side streets between 43rd and 46th. Extreme air rights transfers, combined with maximum density zoning and no height limits, make it possible to build pencil-thin spires such as the one that rises to 1,775 feet on West 57th Street, and

the 900-foot-high spike proposed for 428 East 58th Street, currently under protest by neighbors in Sutton Place.

Also, although the proposal to reform air rights is citywide, it does not apply to certain outlying sections of the city where single-family detached homes stand.

When Does an Alteration Become a New Building (or Vice Versa)?

Code requirements for constructing a new building are generally stricter than when making alterations to an existing structure. The building code requires any alteration that would result in a structure 110 percent larger than the original be classified as "new". Thus, a 100,000-square-foot building alteration cannot add more than 10,000 square feet to an existing structure. If it does, it becomes new construction and is treated as such. This difference leads to conflicting situations.

For example, plans for an alteration have been submitted for 212-214 East 44th Street. A 40-story, 200-car garage and apartment house tower would rise on the merged site. Half the site would retain the bottom three floors of an existing building and the rest would be demolished, including the current 200-car garage. Both sites would top out at 40 stories; thus, about four percent of the total would comprise modified, existing structure and 96 percent would be new construction. By all standards, this should be defined as a new building, not an alteration.

Yet, at another location, plans have been submitted for new construction that would add two stories to 323 East 53rd Street, an existing four-floor structure. Though this conforms to the zoning code, it changes the proposal to make it a new building, which one might deem an alteration!

We will continue to monitor and report on real estate development and construction in the Turtle Bay area.

Editorial Committee

Editor: Lee Frankel

Layout: Hilary Black

Photographs: Lee Frankel, Vivian Gordon

Contributors: Candi Obrentz

Connect with Your Inner Child

By LEE FRANKEL

It's hard not to miss the nine-foot-tall, translucent Hello Kitty sitting in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza at Second Avenue and 47th Street. It's equally hard not to enjoy the fun intended by the artist. This new incarnation of Kitty morphed into a time capsule on May 3, when participants filled her with their valued and colorful kawaii (cute) items – part of the public art project Time After Time Capsule and the Parks Department's Art in the Park series.

The project is the creation of artist and entrepreneur Sebastian Masuda, an instigator of Japan's kawaii craze and, since 1995, a champion of the empowerment of cute girlhood youth-culture through his artful and colorful concept shop 6%DOKIDOKI in Tokyo's fashion destination Harajuku. Masuda has made it his mission to encourage people to recall their childlike sense of wonder by transmitting kawaii culture.

Time After Time Capsule is a multi-city public art installation that first appeared in Miami last year and will make stops in New York and Amsterdam in 2015. After that it will continue to other cities where the public will add their own kawaii items as the project leads up to the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. There, the contained memories from people in all participating cities will be united into one.

New York's installation is the result of a



Hello Kitty as depicted by artist Sebastian Masuda in advance of DHP installation. Courtesy of Japan Society.

cooperative effort by Japan Society, the Department of Parks & Recreation and Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza. It will continue on exhibit through September 13.

Board at Work

- Placing additional large trash cans at busy corners.
- Active on the 17th Precinct Community Council, which helps keep our community safe.
- Working with The Doe Fund to keep the neighborhood clean.
- Bringing neighbors together at events throughout the year.

TBA Trash Bins Replace Small City Cans

Second Avenue is cleaner now that three corners at each intersection on Second Avenue between 48th and 52nd Streets has its own large TBA trash basket. We thank Councilmember Dan Garodnick for the grant that bought the baskets and the Doe Fund's Men in Blue who empty the baskets and keep our corners clean.



Carol Ann Rinzler continued from page 1

Turtle Bay Association and a founder of the nine-year-old 1000+ Friends of NYC Parks whose message – all email, no meetings, no dues, no officers – reaches parks people in all five boroughs of New York City.

Finally, her mantra in both politics and civics grows out of her graduate thesis on the French Revolution at Columbia University, which, she says, “taught me that if you annoy the intellectuals, 30 years later they will come back and chop off your head”.

The TBA Board of Directors takes great pleasure in seeing Carol Ann Rinzler receive this well-deserved honor having benefited from her involvement and commitment for many years.



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

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