

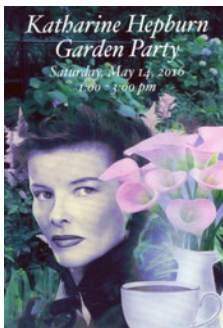
Turtle Bay News

A Publication of the Turtle Bay Association

June 2016 Vol. 59, No. 2

TBA Board Members Receive Award

At this year's Katharine Hepburn Garden Party, on May 14, Millie Margiotta (TBA Vice President), Bill Huxley (TBA director), and Allen Levy were honored for their longtime, dedicated work in the Katharine Hepburn Garden.



Ann Saxon Hirsch, Director of Development and Garden Chair of Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, presented the awards.

The garden was renovated in mid-2015 and features a naturalistic landscape with a wide variety of trees, shrubs and plants, including ones that bloom in spring, summer and fall.

Millie, Bill and Allan have helped the garden to become a magnificent mid-town oasis. Friends of Dag Hammarskjold Plaza, the Turtle Bay Association and the whole community thank them.



(l. to r.), Bill Huxley, Allen Levy and Millie Margiotta receive awards from FDHP president Sherrill Kazan and TBA president Bill Curtis.

Second Urgent Care Clinic Opening In Turtle Bay What Urgent Care Can And Can't Do

BY LEE FRANKEL

An urgent care center has rented retail space in the new residential tower at the corner of Second Avenue and 50th Street, the second such center in Turtle Bay. The first – Me-

drite Urgent Care – arrived several years ago, at Second Avenue and 49th Street.

What is Urgent Care, as opposed to Emergency Care, and when is it appropriate?

According to Mount Sinai Hospital, “Urgent Care centers assist patients with an illness or injury that does not appear to be life-threatening, but also can’t wait until

continued on page 2

Comparison Emergency Room / Urgent Care Services

	ER	Urgent Care
Services 24/7	Yes	No
Life threatening conditions	Yes	No
Specialist emergency care doctors and staff	Yes	No
Other physician specialists	Yes	No
Advanced equipment	Yes	No
Free of charge	No	No
Average cost, depending on treatment*	\$500 to \$1,000	\$100 to \$140
Insurance accepted**	Yes	Yes
Comparative co-pay for same treatment	\$200	\$40
Lesser and moderate medical conditions	No	Yes
Vaccinations and shotsz	No	Yes
Annual physicals	No	Yes
Appointment needed	No	Preferred
When in doubt	Yes	No

* Call for fee schedule

** Check if your coverage is accepted

Note the Event

Make Music New York Ukeleles Concert

Celebrate the year's longest day with this concert, one of more than 1,200 throughout the city.

Tuesday, June 21, 5 pm

Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
Between 1st and 2nd Avenues
at East 47th Street

TBA Street Fair

Saturday, June 25, 11 am - 4 pm
Lexington Avenue, 42nd - 54th Streets
Rain or Shine

National Night Out Against Crime

Tuesday, August 2, 5 - 8:30 pm
Dag Hammarskjold Plaza
Live music. Free food. Elected officials.
City Department information displays.
Sponsored by the 17th Precinct
Community Council

Newsworthy Notes

In Memoriam

We are sad at the passing of Mary Bartolotta, on March 5, 2016. Mary worked with the TBA as a director on the board and as an office volunteer. Her husband, Tony, died several years ago. They were longtime members of the TBA and two of the nicest people we have ever known. We miss them both.

Nations Café Relocated Under New Name

Avenue Diner is the new name of the former Nations Café. The restaurant has moved to Second Avenue, between 56th and 57th Streets, from its former home at 49th and First.

A longtime business member of the TBA, owner Mike Aronis will continue to offer a 15% discount to TBA members. Avenue Diner is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner, and midnight snacks. To order, call 917-639-3006 or fax 917-475-1458.

Urgent Care Continued from page 1

the next day, or for a primary care doctor to see them.” In contrast, a hospital ER “treats emergency conditions, those that can permanently impair or endanger your life, such as a heart attack or a serious head injury.”

Urgent care is not a substitute for emergency care. The table on page 1 provides a brief guide to the differences between the two.

If you'd like to know more about urgent care costs and services, call or visit Medrite: 919 Second Avenue, 646-770-0977, medriteurgentcare.com. Office hours: M-F, 8:00 am - 10:00 pm; Sat/Sun: 9:00 am - 7:00 pm.

When in doubt, call 911 or go the nearest hospital emergency room.

Editorial Committee

Editor: Lee Frankel

Layout: Hilary Black

Photographs: Vivian Gordon

Contributors: Joan Lauri Poole

Volunteer For The TBA

Join us to make new friends while taking an active role in keeping Turtle Bay the vibrant place it has become since its origins in colonial times.



Board Members Needed

Join our board and work with other members and with elected representatives, city services (the NYPD, FDNY, Departments of Parks and Sanitation), business-owners, Community Board 6, and other local non-profits to help maintain the quality of life in the community.

- ♦ **Board Secretary:** Attend monthly meetings, take minutes, type and distribute to the board.
- ♦ **Chair of Special Events Committee:** Work with committee members to organize events for TBA members and neighbors, including our: Annual Valentine's "Love Thy Neighborhood" Party, June Street Fair, Holiday Toy and Clothing Drive; originate new events and group trips.

Interested? Please forward your resume using the contact information below.

Office Assistance Needed

- ♦ **Data Entry:** Update our membership database as renewals come in.
- ♦ **Help with Mailings:** Print mailing labels and put on envelopes; call for additional volunteers to insert and seal mailings, organize mail trays and call post office for pick-up.

Turtle Bay Association

324 East 47th Street, N.Y., NY 10017
Email us at: office@turtlebay-nyc.com
Or call 212-751-5465

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: Vacant
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,
Bill Huxley, Dick Irwin,
Mary F. Marangi,
Millie Margiotta,
Mark P. Markowski,
Dolores Marsh, Pat McDougald,
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>



17th Precinct Has New Commanding Officer



Captain Nicole Papamichael took over as Commanding Officer of the 17th Precinct this past April. With 19 years in the NYPD behind her, Captain Papamichael is an experienced police officer whose past assignments include five years as a detective with the Manhattan South vice squad, sometimes working undercover. Her appointment followed Deputy Inspector Clint McPherson's reassignment as chief of the 19th Precinct.

17th Precinct Crime Statistics Report Covering the Week 4/25/16 through 5/1/16

	Year to Date		
	2016	2015	% Chg.
Murder	0	1	-100.00
Rape	0	0	--
Robbery	2	3	-33.30
Felony Assault	6	7	-14.30
Burglary	5	4	25.00
Grand Larceny	40	52	-23.10
Grand Larceny Auto	1	6	-83.30
Total	54	73	-26.03
Transit	1	7	-85.70
Housing	0	0	***
Petit Larceny	57	44	29.50
Misd. Assault	17	21	-19.00
Misd. Sex Crimes	2	6	-66.70
Shooting Vic.	0	0	***
Shooting Inc.	0	0	***

From 17th Precinct Website, prepared by NYPD CompStat Squad

17th Precinct Crime Statistics Historical Perspective Based on Complete Calendar Year Data 1990 through 2015*

	1990	2015	% Chg.
Murder	6	1	-83.30
Rape	12	3	-75.00
Robbery	740	49	-93.40
Felony Assault	181	74	-59.10
Burglary	1,412	98	-93.10
Grand Larceny	2,910	721	-75.20
Grand Larceny Auto	843	40	-95.30
Total	6,104	986	-83.80

From 17th Precinct Website, prepared by NYPD CompStat Squad.*

Be Alert To ATM Skimming

The NYPD and bank security services have reported a large uptick in ATM skimming around the country and in New York City. Thieves steal debit card PINs and account information by attaching phony card slots to bank entrance doors or ATM machines. They return later – in some cases more than once – to withdraw cash from people's accounts. Recently, skimmers have stolen thousands of dollars at various New York City banks.

FICO Card Alert Service, which monitors bank ATMs around the country, reported a six-fold increase in compromised ATMs between 2014 and 2015. Also, according to FICO, nonbank ATMs, like those at convenience stores, are growing targets. In 2015, 60 percent of compromises were at nonbank ATMs, up from about 39 percent in 2014.

A report posted on dnainfo.com, by Shae Weaver, on May 11, cited six TD Bank "hits" around New York by one skimmer and seven by another on the Upper West Side, Upper East Side, and in Jackson Heights. "In all cases, the victims were women," the article said,

You are protected under the Electronic Fund Transfer Act, which says that, in most cases, if you lose money from your bank account through fraud like skimming, you aren't liable. But you **MUST REPORT** the loss to the bank **WITHIN 60 DAYS**. You might, however, lose access to your money for the few days it takes for the bank to investigate.

CLOSE and LOCK

Close and lock your doors and windows, even if you are leaving for a few minutes.



Join OPERATION ID
The **FREE** property registration program offered by the New York City Police Department



CrimePREVENTIONSection

Avoid ATM Skimmers

1 Before Using Your Card

Notice anything strange. Tug on the slot or jiggle it with your hand.

Phony slots look just like real ones. Look and test for signs of adhesive and anything loose, crooked, damaged or scratched.

2 Check door and ATM slots

Thieves use both to read cards.

Notice both slots and apply step one above.

3 Protect Your PIN

Cover the keypad.

Use your other hand to hide the keypad when you input your PIN to foil hidden cameras or watchers standing behind you.

4 Notice The Neighborhood

More tourists means more crime.

Be extra careful in busy areas.

5 Avoid using nonbank ATMs

Withdraw cash only at bank locations.

Nonbank locations are less secure.

6 If you see something, or lose money. . .

Report the problem immediately.

Call your bank and the NYPD at 911. Consumers are generally protected by law, but you must report any loss by fraud within 60 days to recover the stolen money.

7 If you are a frequent debit card user. . .

Open a savings account at another bank.

Should you experience a theft, you might lose access to your money while the bank investigates. An alternate account will be your back-up.

8 Before trashing paper mail

Shred papers that include personal information.

Thieves steal discarded mail and open fraudulent credit cards in other people's names, using birth dates and other personal information.

Katharine Hepburn Garden Party 2016

This year's party, on May 14, was as lively as Hepburn herself and as well-attended as her many movies. Neighbors gathered in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza for a social afternoon that featured live music, birthday cake nonetheless delicious for its misspelling of "Katherine," a tour of the beautiful Katharine Hepburn Garden, and a chance

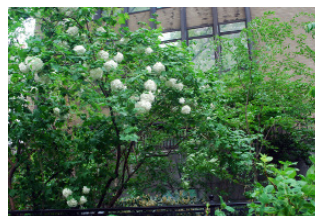
to learn about Hepburn's life and legacy.

Manhattan Borough President Gayle A. Brewer spoke to the crowd. Dan Quart, State Assembly Member, also spoke; he was accompanied by his young son, who looked to be having a wonderful time.

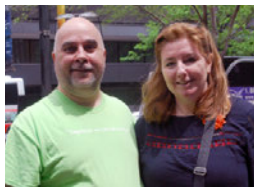
The day's highlight came when Friends

of Dag Hammarskjold presented awards to Millie Margiotta (TBA Vice President); Bill Huxley (a TBA director), and Allan Levy. The three have been dedicated volunteers at the Katharine Hepburn Garden for many years, helping to make it the magnificent oasis it has become.

The annual party was co-sponsored by Friends of Dag Hammarskjold and the Turtle Bay Association.



State Assemblyman Dan Quart and son.



Manhattan Borough President Gayle Brewer speaks to crowd.



Mourning Lutèce and a Turtle Bay That Once Was

BY JOAN LAURI POOLE

On 50th Street, just west of Second Avenue, a green makeshift wall stands in front of an empty lot bearing the messages: “RIP Lutèce, Leopard Club, & Kate Kearney,” “Good Bye Beautiful NYC” and “Places Matter.” They express mourning for three restaurants that are gone and a Turtle Bay that no longer exists. Lutèce, Kate Kearney’s, and The Leopard once thrived on the site. Now the combined lots are just a pile of rubble.

As I pass by the site, a picture rises in my mind of a white four-story townhouse with a green awning, home of a legendary French restaurant for 43 years. I refer to Lutèce, the restaurant whose memory evokes in its former customers a wistful fondness so strong that it still exerts its presence amidst the debris.



Lutèce was originally conceived and owned by André Surmain, who opened the doors of

the 60-seat restaurant in 1961. Surmain soon hired André Soltner, a brilliant young chef from Alsace, to run the kitchen. The two were partners until 1972, when Surmain sold the restaurant and the building to Soltner. Surmain returned to France and opened Le Relais à Mougins, a reincarnation of Lutèce in a hill town near Nice.

Under Soltner, Lutèce’s fame grew. It became the place for fine dining, a culinary experience praised by its diverse customers, including regulars from the neighbor-



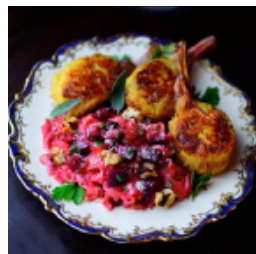
hood, writers, actors, ambassadors, presidents and even the pickiest of food critics. For Julia Child, it was the best restaurant in the United States. For the fictional, globe-trotting spy James Bond (and his creator Ian Fleming) it was one of the great restaurants of the world.

Soltner was a brilliant and exacting chef, modest and extremely hardworking. He served classic French dishes, but in an innovative way. He was one of the first chefs to emphasize fresh, seasonal ingredients – eschewing frozen or canned products. Woven throughout the menu were specialties from his native Alsace, notably, a sweet onion tart that food critic Ruth Reichl rhapsodized “was so light it seemed held together by a wish.” Bryan Miller, a restaurant reviewer for The New York Times, raved about the mouth-watering appetiz-

ers, such as the seared foie gras with caramelized apples and tarragon vinegar sauce, and the Alsatian torte with eggs, bacon, and potatoes. Miller described in loving

detail the rich, perfectly prepared entrées, including pheasant with noodles and pan juices, duck in duck stock and pear sauce, and braised baby lamb. He wrote of the “remarkable” desserts: “There is the terrific house special, an ultra-thin crusted tart with caramel ice cream. . . . and a puff pastry encasing prunes and pears with custard.”

I had the good luck to enjoy my own intimate relationship with Lutèce, though I never had the pleasure of dining there. Then, as now, I was renting an apartment a few doors away, and the restaurant kept its extensive collection of pricey wines in my building’s cellar. I enjoyed watching the exciting comings and goings. The sommelier, captain and waiters were familiar figures on the block. A neighbor still recalls the pastry chef giving cookies to her little girls, and also remembers the sommelier as “amazing.” Eating at Lutèce “was like being in France,” she told me. “It wasn’t



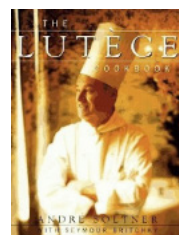
Cotes d'Agneau à la Croute.

stuff.” She said that Soltner and his staff were very natural. They liked to be part of the community.

After Soltner sold Lutèce to Ark Restaurants in 1994, the establishment’s reputation changed and its popularity slowly declined. “When Mr. Soltner walked out the door, Lutèce went with him,” Reichl wrote in her farewell review. Economic downturns, unfortunate updates in the menu and the cataclysm of 9/11 all contributed to the restaurant’s closing on Valentine’s Day in 2004.

The Soltners continued to live in the building for a time before selling it in 2006. The Leopard and Kate Kearney’s eventually closed. The East 50th Street Realty Company bought the vacant, crumbling buildings in 2014, paying \$17 million for the combined 51,000-square-foot space.

In early 2016, a full demolition began and the buildings were leveled. Even gone, Lutèce remains a neighborhood treasure, remembered fondly by its customers and neighbors. No matter how exquisite the meals at Lutèce were, the main ingredients in the restaurant’s success were the seamless hospitality and the dedication of Soltner, his wife and their loyal staff. To quote Ruth Reichl, “In more than 30 years there were only five nights when Mr. Soltner was not at Lutèce, murmuring his way through the dining room, asking people how they had liked his food. . . . Soltner may have been a great chef, but he was an even greater restaurateur. He knew how to do more than feed people—he knew how to make them happy.”



“The Lutèce Cookbook,” by André Soltner and Seymour Britchky, still in print.

Sources/Credits:

Bryan Miller, Restaurants, The New York Times, Arts Section, November 15, 1991.

Ruth Reichl, Our Dinners With André, The New York Times, The Opinion Pages, February 15, 2004.

Rita Rowan, Personal Anecdote, May 2016.

Claudia Warshawer. Phone Interview, May 15, 2016.

Art & Culture in Turtle Bay

Grand Central Library

135 East 46th Street (Lexington/Third)
212-621-0670

nypl.org/locations/grand-central
Fully accessible to wheelchairs.

**First and third Tuesdays of each month,
12:15 pm**

Community Room

Public Speaking Workshop. Public speaking is an essential skill in today's workplace and a valuable ability to help further your endeavors in whatever you're doing. This continuing series is led by experienced public speakers in a supportive environment. All materials provided. Call to check summer schedule.

**Thursday, June 23, 5:30 pm,
Community Room**

Adult Coloring Group. The latest craze is artistic coloring for adults. Adult coloring books have more intricate designs and patterns than those designed for children. This program offers a fun and unique way to unwind and express creativity. All materials will be provided, but participants may also bring their own. For adults of all ages and young adults/pre GED (16-24 years).

Tuesday, July 5 through 26, 10:15 am

Fun in the Sun, Summer Reading

Program. This interactive music event is a good-feeling program that will make you happy you stayed in the city! With Music for Aardvarks Best Summer Songs about going on vacation, playing at the beach, getting

ice cream, and more. Also featuring rock 'n roll summer classics like Rockaway Beach and Surfin' USA. Best for babies (0-18 months), toddlers, (18-36 months), children and their caregivers. Free of charge.



Japan Society

333 East 47th Street
212-832-1155 japansociety.org
Call or visit website for Box Office and Gallery hours. Gallery Admission: \$12; students and seniors \$10; members and children under 16 free. Free to all on Friday nights, 6 pm - 9 pm.

Family Program

Sunday, July 10, 2 - 4 pm

Tanabata: Japan's Star Festival. A child-friendly theatrical performance, directed by Sonoko Kawahara, introduces Japan's famous Tanabata legend of Hikoboshi and Orihime in an interactive setting filled with song and dance. Following the performance, families make paper ornaments and their own traditional tanzaku, thin paper strips for writing one's wishes on, to hang on the bamboo branches in our lobby. Recommended for children ages 3-10 and accompanying adults. Tickets: \$15/\$8 members; children ages 2 and under free. Space is limited: advance ticket purchase recommended. *Annual Family Festivities are sponsored in part by Kumon Centers of Manhattan.*

JAPAN CUTS: Festival of New Japanese Film

July 14 - 24

Watch for more information about the 10th edition of JAPAN CUTS, North America's largest festival of contemporary Japanese cinema. Eleven days of impossible-to-see-anywhere-else screenings with special guest filmmakers and stars, parties, giveaways and much more!



St. Peter's Church

619 Lexington Avenue/54th Street
saintpeters.org

**Jazz on the Plaza
Thursdays through August 25,
12:30 - 1:30 pm**

In the Outdoor Plaza

Enjoy a variety of well-regarded artists representing diverse ensembles and styles ranging from small trios to large big bands. Many people bring a lunch or purchase it from area vendors. In the event of inclement weather, the concert may be moved indoors to the church Sanctuary, where guests are asked not to bring food. Free and open to the public.



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.