

# esna EXTRA

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## Old Fashioned Holiday Caroling



ESNA extends a cordial invitation to one and all to join us on Tuesday, December 14 for a festive launch to the holiday season.

The time is 6 PM, the place is the Rotunda inside TD Bank at the northeast corner of Third Avenue and E. 64th Street. Your gift of a toy, game or book for a needy youngster, newborn to 11 years of age, is greatly appreciated. Each gift should be UNWRAPPED and in its original packaging. Your gift will be delivered to Ambulatory Pediatrics of NY-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medical Center the next day.

Happy Holidays and all the best for the New Year!

## It's a Wrap...and a Shawl, and an Overcoat...

It was ESNA's 19th Annual Clothing Drive! And this year our volunteers pulled together and sorted and stuffed 188 heavy-duty plastic bags of warm winter clothing for the needy. Nine participating buildings were collection locations for the generous donations of clothing by our neighbors. Over 6,500 pounds of gently used clothing were collected and transported to five charities serving the less fortunate in our neighborhood in vans provided by ESNA members Hertz and Avis.

## Happenings at the East River

Our long-neglected waterfront is finally getting the attention it has so long deserved. In our community and further north along the Esplanade, concerned citizens and our local elected officials are putting their heads together and planning for the repair and revitalization of what should be a scenic wonder. A series of public forums and brainstorming sessions are giving life to the idea of transforming a desultory landscape into a coherent public space. The vision is just coming into focus. ESNA will keep you posted as the programs develop.

## Remember the Main. The Water Main, That Is

The construction of the trunk water main for the NYC Third Water Tunnel has begun. And until 2013, at best, E. 59th Street, from 1st Avenue to 3rd Avenue, will be a construction zone. Work proceeds from 7 AM to 3:30 PM, with most of E. 59 closed to vehicular traffic on Saturdays and Sundays. All this makes for tough sledding for residents and businesses affected by the ongoing noise, dirt and general disruption to daily life.

The final route of the secondary or redundant main has yet to be determined. The original city agency documents located the 2nd main along E 56th Street. At some point in the last six months, the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Transportation decided to compare E. 56th Street with alternate routes north of E. 59th Street. Having ruled out E. 61st Street as too narrow (construction costs would zoom by some \$50 million and take an tack on an additional 8 years), the agencies have focused on E. 60th Street and E. 62nd to E. 64th Streets. ESNA has addressed this issue by requesting that the agencies conduct a totally impartial evaluation based solely on the hard, observable facts – surface and sub-surface conditions, engineering studies and time and money costs. We've suggested that social, political and emotional arguments be discounted..

The Department of Design & Construction, the lead agency on the project, issues weekly construction updates. If you would like to be on the e-mailing list, call Sarah Wilmoth at 212 223-6190 or e-mail east59thcc1@gmail.com.

As soon as the route of the redundant main is announced, ESNA will publish it to all our members.

## Public School Rezoning Meeting

All Public Schools in Community District 8 are going to be rezoned. This rezoning may take effect as early as the school year beginning in September 2011. The public hearing to voice your comments will be on Tuesday, November 30 at Robert Wagner Middle School, 220 East 76th Street at 6:30. Please pass the word along to all your friends and neighbors!

Call the CECD2 to get a copy of the current zoning map and the proposed changes at 212-356-3915 and speak with Linda Lumpkin.



**Contributors:** Lee Kaye, Judy Schneider, Barry Schneider

## Tram to Fly Again This Year

The Roosevelt Operating Corp. has expressed the hope that the Tram, closed since March of this year, will reopen to riders by the end of November. RIOC awaits only the "Commissioning" by the New York State Department of Labor to restore the glorious three-minute aerial ride over the East River.

The new Tram features larger, more commodious cabins, capable of carrying 110 passengers, and a dual haul system that enables the cabins to travel independently.

In April 2011 work will begin on the new roof, which will include enhanced LED lighting of the structure. This work will not require any street closing and the operation of the Tram will be unaffected.



## A Gentle Reminder...

It's getting to be that time of year again. And as the year winds down and our activities rev up, sometimes the little things are overlooked. Like your ESNA membership dues. If you've received a reminder from us that your dues are due, perhaps today would be a good time to write the check, put it in the mail and cross off one more item on your "To Do List". ESNA, an all-volunteer organization striving to make the East 60s a better place to live and work, appreciates your support. Happy Holidays!

## Help ESNA Go Greener

If you will provide us with your e-mail address, ESNA will be able to cut down on the amount of "snail" mail that we send you throughout the year. We'll save on printing and postage costs and you'll have less paper to dispose of. And you'll get our Newsletters and other notices in a more timely manner. So it's a win-win proposition. Kindly send an e-mail, with the subject "Count me in" to info@esna-nyc.net. This is entirely voluntary and obligates you in no way. We will safeguard your e-mail as we do your physical address. Questions? Please phone the ESNA Hotline at 212 713-5826.

### Reading Notice

#### Sterling Optical

794 Lexington Avenue (61<sup>st</sup>-62<sup>nd</sup>)

212-755-8927; Fax: 212-753-8882

1125 Lexington Avenue (Corner of 78<sup>th</sup>)

212-628-8886; Fax: 212-452-2860

25% courtesy discount to all ESNA members and their families on complete pair of eyeglasses as well as eye examinations.

## ESNA Salutes These New Merchant Members

**Fatty Fish**, Asian Inspired Comfort Cuisine & Sushi Bar,  
406 E. 64th St., bet. 1st & York Ave.

Sun, Tues, Wed, Thur - 11:00am - 10:15pm, Fri & Sat - 11:00am - 11:00pm

Specal Brunch Hours - Sat & Sun - 11:am - 3:00pm

t 212 813-9338, 212 813-9336

www.fattyfishnyc.com

**Marché du Sud**, a petite French market & restuarant,  
1136 1st Ave., bet. E. 62nd & E. 63rd St.

Serving breakfast, lunch dinner. 7 days. 7am - 11pm.

t 212 207-4900 f 212 207-4922

www.MarcheduSud.com

## Bridge is Coming Down, Esplanade is Closing

Over the past four years, ESNA has been deeply, almost passionately, involved with our city's bridges. And of the city's more than 750 bridges, all but three are in great shape – a testament to the care bestowed on our infrastructure over the past 30 years. And yet there is today one bridge just north of the ESNA neighborhood that has a rating of "poor". But soon to be poor no more! Over the next ten months, the East 78<sup>th</sup> Street Pedestrian Bridge over the FDR Drive will be completely replaced!



We bring this to the attention of our ESNA members because the ramps leading to and from the bridge on the Esplanade in the vicinity of E. 78<sup>th</sup> Street are closed until August, 2011. So strollers, joggers and runners will have to detour to avoid the construction. But come late next summer, the Esplanade will reopen and a spanking new bridge will be in place.

## Membership Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ Apt. \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Tel.: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:

(Circle One)

Individual Coop/Condo Owner	\$25.00
Senior Coop/Condo Owner (65+)	\$20.00
Renter	\$15.00
Senior Renter (65+)	\$12.00
Townhouse Owner	\$50.00
Commercial/Business/Professional	\$50.00

Membership Dues Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution Enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Mail your payment to: **ESNA, Inc.**

**1173A Second Avenue #110 New York, NY 10065**