

# esna EXTRA

A Not-for-Profit Corporation

The Bulletin of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association

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[Spring 2010]

## ESNA's New Merchant Members

**Eddie's Haircut & Shave**, a friendly neighborhood tradition,  
359 E. 68th bet. 1st & 2nd

Mon-Fri 8:00am – 7:00pm Sat 8:00am – 6:00pm

212 861-1145 www.eddiehaircutshave.com

**Manhattan Mini Storage**

420 East 62<sup>nd</sup>, bet. York & 1st

212 838-3670

**Plaza Cleaners Dry Cleaners & Laundry**, Tailors and Alterations,

220 East 60<sup>th</sup>, bet. 2nd & 3rd

Free Delivery. Mon to Sat 7:30am - 7 pm

212 759 9106

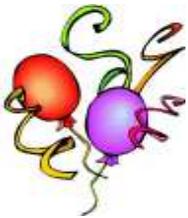
## Change in Command at the 19th Precinct

As of Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, Inspector Murtagh, Commanding Officer of the 19 Precinct, has been transferred to the Office of the Chief of Personnel at One Police Plaza. The new Commanding Officer is Deputy Inspector Matthew Whelan, formerly Commanding Officer of the 109 Precinct in Queens. ESNA commends Inspector Murtagh for his over four years of outstanding service to the community and we look forward to a cordial and productive relationship with Inspector Whelan.

## ESNA Welcomes New Businesses to the Neighborhood

At the site of the former Conran's at Bridgemarket, 1st Avenue and E. 59th Street, **T. J. Maxx** will be opening shortly. And on E. 62nd Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues, a new dining establishment, **Pop Art Bar**, will be opening soon. Down the block, at the corner of 1st Avenue, **Space Market** has opened, featuring foods and flowers. And further west, on Third Avenue at the corner of E. 61st Street, is **brgr**. As the vowel-challenged name suggests, the fare is not fowl but beef burgers - grass-fed beef at that! We hope these are signs of things to come and that existing businesses flourish. And that many new businesses will be making the East Sixties their home.

## Join us at ESNA's 60<sup>th</sup> Street Summerfest



- Sunday, August 8, 2010
- 60th Street, between 5th & Madison Avenues
- 11 am – 5 pm
- Over 100 vendors

• And ESNA's fabulous "**White Elephant**" table.

Advertisement

**Sterling Optical** Dr. Joseph Yehuda Bistricher, B.S., O.D.  
Eye exam • Glasses • Sunglasses • Medical Disease Treatment  
Mention **ESNA** for: Free Lasik Evaluation;  
Free single vision lenses with frame purchase  
Free contact lens care-kit with contact lens purchase  
Most medical & vision plans accepted for eye examinations – contacts & eyeglasses  
794 Lexington Avenue (61<sup>st</sup>-62<sup>nd</sup>) 212-755-8927

## THE CHALLENGES AHEAD

When Manhattan Borough President Scott Stringer was summing up his brief remarks, he set the tone for ESNA's 2010 Annual Meeting – "stay organized to meet the challenges." He complimented ESNA for its history of being involved in every major issue that the Upper East Side has faced and called for continued involvement given potential impacts of the budget crisis in Albany. The Community voice needs to be heard to address the overcrowding in schools and to stop the threatened cut back in the City's police force. Other elected officials



James Murtagh, Dan Garodnick, Liz Krueger, Barry Schneider, Jessica Lappin

attending ESNA's annual meeting echoed the Borough President's theme.

ESNA President Barry Schneider opened the meeting by introducing Inspector James Murtagh of the 19<sup>th</sup> Precinct, New York State Senator Liz

Kruger, New York City Council members Dan Garodnick and Jessica Lappin and Assemblyman Micah Kellner asking each to touch on one or two important issues facing the community.

Senator Kruger covered the New York State economic crisis and the impact that the \$9 billion budget deficit could have on funding vital services.

Councilmember Dan Garodnick said that while the City is not as bad off fiscally as the state, we still need to look for ways to operate more efficiently and that he would be undertaking initiatives to use technology in providing government services in, as he put it, a more user friendly way. Councilmember Jessica Lappin talked about "Complete Streets Week" and the upcoming survey and inspection of dangerous intersections that the Council, AARP and ESNA will be undertaking, especially as it relates to issues for the elderly.

She also told the audience how pleased she was to have provided \$2.8 million of funding for the Andrew Haswell Green Park, the new beautifully designed city public, open green space that will grace ESNA's waterfront from 60<sup>th</sup> to 63<sup>rd</sup> Streets. Assemblyman Micah Kellner concluded by expanding on what Borough President Stringer had said. He agreed that while there will be a need for service cuts driven cut backs in state funding, we must be vigilant in making certain that the cuts proposed by the Governor do not impact safety and education – we need more police and we need more schools.

Barry thanked the elected officials for their brief remarks and said a special thanks needed to be given to Latha Thompson, the District Manager of Community Board 8 who serves as a vital link between the community and all City agencies. He then made a point to thank the merchant members of ESNA who had provided door prizes, refreshments, gifts and discount opportunities displayed at the merchants' tables at the meeting. Among them were:

Allstate Insurance

Apple Bank

Animal Medical Center

Art in Flowers

Canaletto Restaurant

Eddie's Haircut and Shave

Espresso's Caffe

40<sup>th</sup> Street Diet Center

Fabulous Stationers

Grace Institute

Isle of Capri

Kate Broadbent

Klein & Khoobyar, DPM

MSK Cancer Screening

NY-Presbyterian/Weill

Cornell Medical Center

P.S. 183 Flea Market

Rockefeller University

Serendipity

Starbucks

We Do Stuff



Micah Kellner, Scott Stringer

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At the formal part of the Annual Meeting, minutes were approved, the financial statements were offered and officer nominations were presented – July Schneider for Executive Vice President and Joan Ferrone for Assistant Treasurer – and ballots were circulated for voting. Then Barry Schneider presented “The Neighborhood 2009, 2010 and Beyond”. Focusing on the map enclosed with this newsletter, Barry updated the audience on planned construction activity for Second Avenue Subway stations at all 4 corners of 63<sup>rd</sup> and Third with a new plaza, which is more park-like than the current plaza. In another project, he noted that on Wednesday mornings from 10 am to noon someone will be on site in the glass house on 63<sup>rd</sup> and Second to answer questions about what will be happening in that location for the Long Island Railroad East Side Access project. He also showed renderings of what will be the new Andrew Haswell Green Park at the waterfront, made possible by the support of our elected officials Jessica Lappin, Scott Stringer, Liz Krueger and Jonathan Bing. He then described Select Bus Service that will replace the M15 Limited bus route on First and Second Avenues with elongated bus units that have 3 exits and entrances and pre-boarding sidewalk fare boxes.



Members visiting Merchants' Table

He only briefly mentioned the other projects on the map in order to spend time on a serious issue for the ESNA community – the 59<sup>th</sup> Street Water Main for the Third Water Tunnel. Barry explained the issues as follows below.

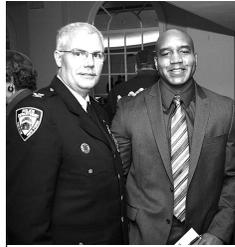
The water main on E. 59<sup>th</sup> Street requires a back-up water main. Construction of the back-up main involves two agencies –

the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that oversees the underground construction and the Department of Transportation (DOT) to oversee the Traffic Maintenance Plan and the hours of work on the street and other construction issues that will determine the duration of the project. Following a study, review and analysis, the DEP had determined that the west-bound location to be used for the back-up main should be E. 56<sup>th</sup> Street from First to Third. They ruled out an alternative, namely E. 61<sup>st</sup> Street, because the engineering and traffic considerations would have added \$50 million to the cost and lengthened the time for the project from 3 to 8 years. Thus, 56<sup>th</sup> Street was determined as the preferred location. The Sutton Area Community Association, objecting to the location, has been successful in getting the DEP to commit to another study to compare 60, 62, 63 and 64<sup>th</sup> Streets to 56<sup>th</sup> Street for the back-up main. ESNA strongly believes that the decision for the selection of the back-up main location must be driven by time, cost, engineering, street use and building use and not by “not-in-my-back-yard” or NIMBY voices. ESNA supports the idea of a comparative study but insists that it be done in a fair, honest, unbiased and non-political manner.

Barry advised the audience that ESNA will be watching and fighting to insure that there are no “thumbs on the scale” when the alternatives are being weighed.

Following the discussion about the water main, Barry introduced Officer Tariq Hunter of the 19<sup>th</sup> Precinct to talk about

“Playing it Safe” and how to avoid being a victim of crime. Officer Hunter shared his phone number (212 452 0630) and e-mail address (tarik.hunter@nypd.org) saying that his unit can be called upon to do risk assessments. His message to the audience on how to avoid becoming a crime victim boiled down to a common sense solution – don’t give criminals an opportunity. In the ESNA community, burglaries, or crimes against property, occur because residents leave doors or windows unlocked, they buzz people into their buildings without asking who they are and they carelessly leave bags unattended in stores and restaurants. While he said that there is a low incidence of crimes against people in the ESNA area, Officer Hunter stressed being cautious by avoiding “tunnel vision” and being aware of what’s



James Murtagh, Tariq Hunter

going on around when walking down the street. He cautioned to never enter an ATM location if the door is unlocked and to frequent only ATMs that are brightly lit. He gave tips on how to carry wallets and handbags and suggested carrying only a minimum number of credit cards. He also talked about avoiding scams involving commotions, distractions or diversions

such as the latest “lost child” scam. Officer Hunter summed up by saying that being alert is the best defense against becoming a victim of crime.



Community Spirit Award recipient Bob Van Kirk

Barry returned to the podium to present community spirit awards to Bob Van Kirk and Jeani Miller for the work they have done each year for ESNA’s Annual Winter Clothing

Drive. In October, their building produced 2,800 pounds of clothing due to the weeklong effort that they mounted. Another recipient of a community spirit award was Sally Oleon, one of the founding members of ESNA who, as an ESNA board member, has worked tirelessly for the organization since its inception. Following the awards presentation, Barry gave a special thanks to board member Dave Gillespie for putting together the music and video featuring ESNA members and the neighborhood that greeted the audience as they arrived for the meeting and showed the various capital projects as Barry spoke about them.

Aided by volunteers Kate Broadbent and Justine Frisbie, board member Joan Ferrone distributed door prizes donated by Canaletto Restaurant, Serendipity, Kate Broadbent, the 40<sup>th</sup> Street Diet Center and We Do Stuff. This year’s winners were Grace Campbell, Sydney Silberman, Alfred Lurie, Amy Miller, Lynn Silberman, Dorothy Cristani, Nedra Biegel, James Cincotta and Felice Levin. Barry Schneider congratulated all of the winners and then thanked the audience for coming with the parting reminder that ESNA is a community of neighbors organized and committed to working together to meet the challenges

- Joan Fabio

**Contributors:** Joan Fabio, Matt Frisbee, Lee Kaye, Judy Schneider, Barry Schneider

**Membership Application**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

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

Telephone: Day \_\_\_\_\_ Evening \_\_\_\_\_

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY:**

*(Circle One)*

- Individual Co-op/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 \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**ESNA’s COMMITTEES**  
(Circle those you want to join.)

- Beautification & Sanitation
- City Services
- Communications
- Fund Development & Social Activities
- Government & Community Relations
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Mail your payment to:  
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**New York, NY 10065**