

esna EXTRA

A Not-for-Profit Corporation

The Bulletin of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association

[Volume 60]

www.esna-nyc.com

[Winter 2016]

Preserved, Again!

City & Suburban Homes Company, First Avenue Estate has yet again escaped the executioner's axe. In a battle that has raged for more than two decades between the property's owner, Stahl York Avenue Co., and the city and state, the latest and perhaps the final round has gone to the state to preserve the landmark status of the two buildings on York Avenue between E. 64 & E. 65 Streets. It may be too soon to celebrate - a final appeal may yet be filed - but perhaps



the day will soon come when the scaffolding that has blighted York Avenue for years will be removed and the landmarked buildings can be returned to their original glory.

Holiday Sing a Rousing Success

Despite the spring-like weather outside, it was all Christmas cheer in the TD Bank when ESNA members and friends gathered to give voice to the holiday season on December 10. Led by two seasoned Broadway horn players on trumpet and trombone, the community choristers' lusty performance brightened the corner of First Avenue and East 67th Street as never before. As we sang, the mound of donated toys, games and stuffed animals grew as more and more friends and neighbors joined us. Among the singers were the nurses and administrators of the Pediatric Care Unit of New York-Presbyterian Hospital whose patients would be the recipients of the generously donated toys and games. Over the years, your gifts have made the difference between a joyous Christmas and one barren of joy for many of the patients in their care.



Our best wishes to all for a Happy New Year!

Judith Schneider Honored by State Assemblyman Dan Quart

Congratulations to ESNA board member Judy Schneider for recently being presented a New York State Assembly proclamation from Assembly Member Dan Quart. Judy was recognized for her outstanding commitment to the Upper East Side through her membership on Community Board 8, her championing of parks in the neighborhood, and her tireless efforts to better the lives of community members.



The Proclamation reads in part, "WHEREAS, she was one of the founders of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association, an organization that protects the quality of life for resident and businesses in the East Sixties; and WHEREAS, Judith has served her community ably, admirably and effectively; and NOW, THEREFORE, I Dan Quart, duly elected member of the

New York State Assembly from the 73rd District, State of New York, Borough of Manhattan, do hereby declare and PROCLAIM, That Judith Schneider be honored for outstanding commitment to the Upper East Side and I do hereby further declare and PROCLAIM, that a copy of the proclamation, suitably engrossed, shall be present to Judith Schneider on October 31st, 2015."

The ESNA Board of Directors adds its congratulation to our fellow Board Member and co-founder, Judith Schneider.

25 YEARS OF COMMITMENT

This fall will signal ESNA's Silver Jubilee. Plans are underway now to mark our 25 years of service to the neighborhood. And **YOU** will be included in the celebration.

Stay tuned!

Graffiti Free NYC

New York City's Graffiti-Free NYC program offers free graffiti removal services and supplies to commercial, industrial, and residential buildings city wide. Graffiti-Free NYC works as a cooperative effort between the New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC,) the



Mayor's Office of Community Affairs, and the Department of Sanitation. Since the program's inception, more than 170 million square feet of surface area have been cleaned of graffiti throughout the five boroughs. Individuals and business owners can request Graffiti-Free NYC Services by contacting 311 and requesting graffiti removal. Or you can obtain the form at www.nycedc.com/program/graffiti-free-nyc.

ESNA Partners with the NYPD

In mid-December, ESNA leaders Judy and Barry Schneider were honored by the 19th Precinct as Community Partners, welcoming them into the NYPD Community Partner Program. The program is an important step in the NYPD's commitment to establish trust between police and the communities they serve. Many newly assigned police officers have little understanding of residents and business people in the area, or the problems of the area that the neighborhood relies on the Police Department to address.

For the first time in over a decade, Police Academy graduates will work with a group of local Community Partners who will orient the new officers to the neighborhood, its leaders and the policing issues of greatest concern to residents and businesses in the area.



This is an important first step in helping police officers recognize the importance of strong relationships with their community and the value of understanding community concerns regarding crime and quality of life conditions.

As a matter of full disclosure, ESNA president Barry Schneider participated in a similar program with the NYPD from 2006 through 2013. Each June and December, he, along with Chief James Murtagh, currently the Executive Officer, NYPD Personnel Bureau and formerly the Commanding Officer of the 19th Precinct, met with the graduating classes of new police officers at the Police Academy. During the three hour classes, Schneider and Murtagh helped prepare the new officers for their role in the community.

ESNA Salutes These New Merchant Members

5 Napkin Burger - The art of grabbing a burger has found its top shelf – quality, diversity, a custom cocktail – in an engaging atmosphere - **1325 Second Avenue**

Biscuits & Bath - Services include: Dog Daycare, Dog Walking, Grooming, Overnight Care, Training, Veterinary Care & Transportation - **1035 Third Avenue**

Bridgemarket Associates – Owner and developer of the Bridgemarket property under the Ed Koch Queensboro Bridge – **415 E. 59th Street**

Greek Eats – elevated casual restaurant offering well priced, healthy Greek food made with the freshest quality natural ingredients, beer and wine on tap – **1229 First Avenue**

Service Station – once an old fashioned gas station, now transformed into a modern restaurant featuring an array of tasty brick oven pizzas and delicious Italian eats – **500 East 62nd Street**

Welcome Back, DD!

After recovering from the extensive water damage that resulted from the fire in the upper floor apartment, Dunkin' Donuts has reopened for business at 1225 First Avenue, corner of E. 66th Street. We know the neighbors are delighted that the long, agonizing coffee break is over.



Hello, my name has changed!

EFI Dry Cleaners & Laundry is now **EFI Dry Cleaners & Services** - new owner Simon says each garment professionally dry cleaned for \$4.99 - **365 East 62nd Street**



Neely's Barbecue Parlor is now **Treadwell Park** – Craft Beer Hall & Restaurant – **1125 First Avenue**

Paraklete Home Health Care is now **A Better Care Option** - providing home companion services – **212 751-6315**

Sports Club/LA is now owned by **Equinox Sports Club Upper East Side** – “It's Not Fitness. It's Life” – **330 East 61st Street**

Weill Cornell Medical Center is now **Weill Cornell Medicine** - Care. Discover. Teach - **1300 York Avenue**

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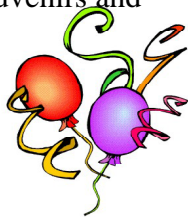
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[Spring 2016]

Join us at ESNA's 60th Street Summerfest

It's ESNA's 21st Annual Street Fair! Join us at a veritable bazaar of exotic ornaments, fashion eyewear, house wares, bric-a-brac, CDs, NYC souvenirs and food, food, food!

- **Sunday, August 21, 2016**
- Between 5th & Madison Avenues
- Noon – 5 pm
- Over 100 vendors
- **And ESNA's matchless "White Elephant" table.**



It's Time To Burst The Bubble!



When is a public park not a public park? When it's off limits to the public for 9 months of the year. That's the current situation at the Queensboro Oval at York Avenue and E. 59th Street.

Opened as a public

playground in 1909, for the past 30 years a private tennis club has had exclusive use of the 1.24 acre site from September through May. But perhaps that's about to change. Through the efforts of the Parks & Recreation Committee of Manhattan Community Board 8, the City's Department of Parks & Recreation may reconsider the club's lease when it's up for renewal in 2017.

You can make a difference. If you believe that the Queensboro Oval should be available to the entire community year round, join your friends and neighbors on Saturday, June 25 at 11 am – 1 pm at the Oval for a rally to help make it a full-time public park. There will be a live band, activities for children, raffles of sports equipment and more! It's time to burst the bubble to make way for everyone to enjoy our local park.

Attention, Attention Must Be Finally Paid...

... to the parks in the ESNA neighborhood. And as this edition of ESNA attests, three of our treasured green open spaces are receiving much needed care from the city and state.

Next up: 24

Sycamores Park is to have a refurbished park comfort station which will have ADA accessible ladies and men's rooms.

The process of procurement has started and has

about 18 months left. Construction is estimated to start end of 2017/beginning 2018. Construction will take about 18 months. The area will be regraded and, as a result, asphalt pavement removed and new pavers installed, when the regrading is complete. The base of the flagpole will have some limited repairs. New fencing will be installed around the swings. The comfort station will have the paint removed and the natural brick color will be restored. The last renovation to the park was over 20 years ago. We want to thank our former Councilmember, Jessica Lappin, for providing the funding for this much needed repair. Finally.



Save
the Date

Monday evening, September 26, 2016

25
YEARS

esna

east sixties neighborhood association, inc.

Things Are Looking at Tramway Park

Roosevelt Island Operating Corp (RIOC) is planning to start replacement of the existing elevator and wheel chair lift, which is frequently out of operation. The original devices were installed in 1976 and have often needed repair. The work is scheduled to start in October, 2016 and is estimated to take approximately one year. The two new elevators will be glass and have controllable



LED lighting. Their placement will expand southward into the park. The new design provides better access to the elevators for those in wheelchairs or with large baby strollers. Four trees will be removed but the Parks Department will be reimbursed under the parks' formula for new trees. The cost of the

entire project is approximately 2 million dollars.

When the plan was presented to the community at the May 24 Community Board Transportation/Parks Committee meeting, members of the community suggested that some mitigation was due since a great deal of the park would be off limits to the public for a year or more and that the loss of part of the park would be permanent. Some suggested that the mitigation take the form of installing the water feature that was part of the original plan when the park was redesigned more than 10 years ago but never installed. A member of the public pointed out that the underground plumbing for the water table had been installed at the time of most recent renovation.

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____

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 \$ _____

ESNA Salutes These New Merchant Members

Bedford Falls - a neighborhood bar with an atmosphere unparalleled to any Upper East Side experience - **206 East 67th Street**

Celestial Cleaners - over 10 years of experience in the dry cleaning and laundry business. Eco-friendly dry cleaning solutions. Free pick up & delivery - **257 East 68th Street**

Crunch 66th Street - our mission is to make exercise both fun and judgment-free; Crunch is renowned for putting creative twists on traditional classes and workouts - **1131 Third Avenue**

Daily Bagel - a contemporary gourmet delicatessen / homemade bagels / breakfast and post-breakfast specials / premium coffee bar / fresh juice bar - **1111 First Avenue**

Leslie J. Garfield/Francis O'Shea Senior Real Estate Adviser - specializes exclusively in the representation of fine townhouse properties on the Upper East Side - **505 Park Avenue**

Glade Nail & Spa - full service / manicure / pedicure / aroma waxing / body massage / special spa packages including manicure, pedicure, back rub, foot reflexology - **1224 Second Avenue**

Grace's Marketplace - our local premier gourmet market offering the best in quality foods and customer service. Family owned and operated - **1299 Second Avenue**

Gristedes - our newly redesigned, shopper-friendly store offers fresh meat, produce, dairy products, baked goods, frozen foods, gourmet foods, and nonfood items / we strive to make every shopping experience a great shopping experience / *"Your neighborhood grocer since 1888"* - **1208 First Avenue**

Le Pain Quotidien - founded in Brussels in 1990, today it is an international chain serving bakery fare, healthful salads, handmade breads and organic drinks for breakfast, lunch and dinner - **1270 First Avenue**

Under the Bridge - new Greek restaurant for the Sutton Place and ESNA areas / our kitchen prepares traditional home cooked dishes with tender, loving care / our menu Features light and healthy choices - **1079 First Avenue**

- Contributed by Judy Elgart

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Sadly, there will be no ESNA clothing drive this year!

The ESNA Clothing Drive command center, central depot and staging area will likely become an active construction site within the next 45 days. Our very gracious hosts for the past 23 years, the St. Tropez Condominium of E 64th



Street, are planning extensive renovation to the first floor of the building. In addition to a newly designed entrance and lobby, the "back of the house" will also be reconfigured and rebuilt. So the space we used to

sort and bag your generous donations of winter clothing and the area where we stacked the dozens and dozens of overflowing black plastic bags will very likely be gone. Also, the driveway entrance on E. 64th Street is in a state of repair, impeding access for our vans from Avis and Hertz. As well as the office area we used to dispatch our volunteer drivers. Gone, all gone temporarily!

But we're not abandoning our neighbors who still benefit from your largesse. If your apartment building does not have a clothing recycling bin, you may be able to bring your donations of gently used winter clothing to the following locations, so contact them: Bottomless Closet, 16 East 52nd Street, 15th Floor (between Madison and 5th Ave), 212 563-2499 info@bottomlessclosetnyc.org and Jan Hus Presbyterian Church and Neighborhood House, 351 East 74th Street (between 1st and 2nd Ave), 212 288 6743, church@janhus.org

esna

Street Fair



Sunday, August 21, 2016
12 Noon - 5 PM
E. 60th Street between
Fifth & Madison Avenues

ESNA Celebrates 25 Years of Service to the East 60s!

On September 26, members of the East Sixties Neighborhood will gather to lift a glass of bubbly to mark the Silver Anniversary of the Association. It all began in 1991 when six neighbors got together to convince the MTA that a better, more community-friendly use could be made of a vacant lot at Second Avenue and E. 63rd than a noxious parking lot. The group of neighbors prevailed and the Elizabeth Street Garden and Patio.com flourished at that location for more than a decade. And the band of neighbors has blossomed into a vigorous and vibrant organization of more than 600 members including residents,



merchants, institutions and property owners/managers.

And speaking of our membership - here's a special note to all members: Members, we need to know if you will be attending the anniversary gala. **Please return the**

reply card you received with the invitation. And let us know even if you will not be attending. If you are not yet a member and you wish to attend the cocktail reception on September 26 at Charlie Palmer's Upper Story, we welcome your membership. Please phone or email ESNA to request a membership application. And one more thing, members - please don't forget to complete your Proxy and return it to us as early possible!

VOLUNTEER
all that's missing is U!

A great way to connect with the neighborhood and the association is to volunteer with ESNA's Distribution Task Force. Just a few hours of your time a month will help us get the word out to our members. We mail out our Newsletters, Event Flyers, Raffle Tickets and more. Please advise Joan Ferrone at jfer345205@aol.com if you are interested.

New Leadership at the 19th Precinct

There's a new Commanding Officer and new Executive Officer leading the NYPD's 19th Precinct. The CO is Deputy Inspector Clint McPherson (third from the right in the photo below) and the XO is Captain John Potkay (2nd from the right). Inspector McPherson came from our neighbor to the south, the 17th Precinct, where also served as CO. Prior to joining the 17th, McPherson for a time led the department's Counterterrorism unit. Captain Potkay, formerly with the Detective Bureau in the Bronx and before that with the Detective Bureau in Queens.

You can meet the new team on the first Monday of every month, except next month, at the 19th Precinct Community Council meeting. September's meeting is on Monday, the 12th, at 7:00 PM, at the station house, 153 East 67th Street, between Lexington and Third Avenues. At the hour-long monthly meeting, the crime report is given and members of the community have the opportunity to ask questions of the Commanding Officer and the Community Affairs Officers. A guest speaker is usually featured. Refreshments, donated by Butterfield Market, are served.



19th Precinct National Night Out Against Crime Lights Up The Community

With a strong turnout of community-minded citizens on Tuesday night, August 2nd, the 19th Precinct Community Council marked the gathering of neighbors and law enforcement with smokin' music provided by The French Cookin' Band, soul-satisfying food from Maz Mescal, Butterfield Market, Gotham Pizza and the only-in-New York Ice Cream Truck – sans music! Now in its 33 year nationally, Night Out.. presents an opportunity to enhance the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. We are indeed fortunate here in the East 60s to have the best law enforcement team in the world. Three cheers for the 19th Precinct!



The French Cookin' Band



Mary Silva of Mez Mescal



Dep. Insp. Clint McPherson,
Auxiliary P. O. William Lese,
Precinct Council Pres. Nick Viest

Membership Application

Name _____

Address _____ Apt. _____ Zip _____

Telephone: Day _____ Evening _____

Email _____

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 \$ _____

ESNA's PROJECTS
(Circle those you want to join.)

Beautification & Sanitation
City Services
Communications
Fund Development & Social Activities
Government & Community Relations
Mailing & Distribution • Membership

Mail your payment to:
ESNA, Inc.
1173A Second Avenue-#110
New York, NY 10065

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[Fall 2016]

esna Raffle 2016



If you entered the ESNA Raffle today, you could be enjoying a flight to anywhere in the USA on Southwest Airlines in no time!

Or you could be the winner of a Microsoft Surface Pro 4, or 8 other exciting prizes. Through the cooperation of the Manhattan Chamber of Commerce, YOU have a chance to win a great prize and help ESNA at the same time. To get your ESNA Raffle tickets, call us at 212 713-5826. Or e-mail your request to info@esna-nyc.net. All proceeds from the Raffle help us continue our community projects – pruning our street trees, beautifying Green Streets, keeping our sidewalks clean and litter-free and painting over graffiti and in general enhancing the quality of life throughout the neighborhood. *No entries will be accepted after Monday, November 21, 2016.*

Save the Date – Thursday, December 8 – for ESNA's 25th Annual Carol Sing

Join us for a festive evening as we are led in song by the **Jolly Holiday Singers**, adorned in authentic Victorian costumes on Thursday, December 8, at 6 p.m. at TD Bank, on the southeast corner of First Avenue & East 67th Street. Your gift of an unwrapped toy or game for youngsters from newborn to 11 years will be delivered to the Ambulatory Pediatrics of NY-Presbyterian Hospital/Weill Cornell Medicine.



ESNA's 25th Anniversary – It Was a Night to Remember!

As twilight descended on Manhattan, more than 150 members and friends of ESNA celebrated the Silver Anniversary of the East Sixties Neighborhood Association from the terrace on the 14th floor of Charlie Palmer's Upper Story at 59th and Third.



Besides the sumptuous food and abundant drink, the celebrants enjoyed the company of many of our elected officials, whose proclamations were the featured décor throughout the glamour event space. We were joined by Manhattan Borough President Gale

A. Brewer, New York State Senator Liz

Krueger, New York Assembly Members Dan Quart and Rebecca Seawright and New York City Council Members Dan Garodnick and Ben Kallos. Also among our well wishers were New York City Commissioner of Parks and Recreation Mitchell Silver and Manhattan Borough Commissioner William Castro. We also welcomed the Commanding Officer of the 19th Precinct, Deputy Inspector Clint McPherson, Executive Officer John Potkay and Community Affairs Officer Michael Lombardi.

And as our guests left the Upper Story, they were presented with a gift bag that contained the hot-off-the-press 2016 edition of the ESNA Directory, "for a quarter of a century, the indispensable guide to the best the East 60s has to offer". A **Directory** is also enclosed with the mailing of this newsletter. Also in the bag was the gift of an ESNA folding umbrella - way of showing its members that we're not just your fair weather friends!

And, now, it's on to the Gold!

Please see the ESNA 25th Anniversary Photo Gallery on the following pages.

All photographs © Ron Jautz 2016

ESNA Merchant Member Update

Greek Eats... new hours: Open Mon. – Fri. 10:30 am – 10:30 pm. Sat. – Sun. 11:00 am – 10:30 pm. **1229 First Avenue (66th-67th)**

ESNA's 25th Anniversary Photo Gallery, September 26, 2016



ESNA welcomes you!



Your gift bag awaits!



Proclamations from elected officials!



Members of the ESNA Board of Directors.



Daniel Secor and ESNA Secretary Joan Ferrone.



David Gillespie and Liz Nica.

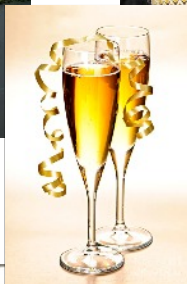
EPNA's 25th Anniversary Photo Gallery, September 26, 2016



Audrey & Susan Lai, Ina Woronoff
and Karen Stewart.



Liz Nica and Julie Ziercher



Anthony Borelli and Ana Garcia.



Agnes Peterson, Denise Goodman and Latha Thompson.



Councilmember Dan Garodnick



(Foreground) NYC Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver.

ESNA's 25th Anniversary Photo Gallery, September 26, 2016



Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer
and Commissioner Mitchell Silver



Dominick Vitiello and Zaimarie Lopez



NY State Assemblymembers
Dan Quart and Rebecca Seawright



ESNA President Barry Schneider



Doe Fund Founders George and Harriet McDonald
and East Midtown Partnership President Rob Brynes



(L - R) NYPD Capt. J. Potkay, Meryl Brodsky, Geo. & Harriet McDonald, R. Byrnes, Assemblyman Dan Quart, Downtown Alliance Pres. Jessica Lappin, Judy and Barry Schneider, City Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver, NYC Councilmember Ben Kallos, Manhattan Boro Parks Commissioner Wm. Castro, NYPD P.O. Mike Lombardi, 19th Precinct Commanding Officer Dep. Inspector Clint McPherson.