
EAST RIVER

NEWS

December 2006

**PUBLISHED BY THE EAST RIVER
HOUSE COMMITTEE**

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The House Committee is a group of your East River House neighbors who are elected by Cooperators to advise and to report to the Board and Management on issues of importance to tenants. The Committee meets monthly and focuses on several areas, including Physical Plant, Transportation, Newsletter, and Lobby Get Togethers. The newsletter has long been an important way to communicate with the overall community on these matters. We hope you'll find it useful, and look forward to your comments and suggestions to better serve you. You may contact the House Committee through the Management Office: 530 Grand Street, New York, NY 10002.

Community Board 3

The next full Board meeting is Tuesday December 19, 2006, at P.S. 20, 166 Essex Street (East Houston and Stanton Streets). Various CB3 committees meet on other dates. For more information, go to www.cb3manhattan.org.

**Board and House
Committee Elections**

The results of the December 6 elections for the East River Board of Directors and the East River House Committee were announced. Four positions were voted on for the Board. Two incumbents were re-elected, Leonard Greher and Richard Kenny, and two new members were elected, Ellen Gentilviso and John Sotomayor. Three positions were voted on for the House Committee. Three incumbents were re-elected: Stephanie Aaron, Judy Aronowitz and Fran Plotnick. Congratulations and good luck to all!

In an action separate from the Annual Meeting's elections, Larry Goldman joins the House Committee to fill a position recently vacated by Marsha Ambrose. The House Committee welcomes Larry and thanks for Marsha for her dedicated service.

**'Tis the Season... for
Fire Safety**

Many of us will have displays of trees, wreaths, lights and candles in our homes during the approaching holiday season. A few practical steps will help ensure their safe use and a joyous experience:

- Keep Christmas trees and wreaths watered. Letting them dry out will create a fire hazard. Also, make sure they're set up securely, and keep pets or small children away from them.
- Do not leave candles unattended or near flammable items (such as Christmas trees or curtains).
- Do not overload electrical outlets or extension cords, and make sure that extension cords are not frayed or cracked. Unplug decorative lights when unattended.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

The Golden Rule...

It usually is impolite to talk dirty, but sometimes "trash talk" is important! Yes, life is messy, as they say. But, that doesn't mean that the common areas of the co-op have to be messy also. Let's face facts: isn't it often easier just to get rid of garbage any old way than to dispose of it properly? And, it's not always someone else who takes such shortcuts, right? The co-op's prizes for this easy game are bugs, unnecessary extermination costs, unsightly messes and irritated neighbors. Did we really use the "b" word? Eeeew! The best way to clean up messes is not to make them in the first place. So here's the inside scoop:

- Chute it! Put garbage, especially wet garbage, such as food scraps, food packaging, soiled baby diapers, etc., in a sealed garbage bag and drop it in the compactor chute in your hall. It's easier than hauling bigger, smellier bags all the way downstairs. And, it is much healthier and more sanitary.
- Don't dump big bags of wet garbage into the recycling bins on the ground floor. Big bags bring big bugs. Eeeew!
- Recycle properly: The blue bins on the ground floors are for glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles and jugs, beverage cartons and drink boxes, metals and foil. If possible, it's best to rinse out empty containers first. Mixed paper and cardboard are recycled separately; put them in the stand for papers or in the designated dumpsters in the garbage rooms. More information on recycling is available at: www.nyc.gov/wastelless.

- As long as we're on recycling, put empty laundry detergent jugs and bottles into the recycling bins rather than in the laundry room trashcans.
- Be careful about disposing spray cans or containers of solvents or flammable liquids. Read the labels for instructions on proper disposal. Often it is dangerous to put these items in the compactor chutes or recycling bins. Ask the Maintenance office for advice on how best handle these materials.
- Put large items, such as broken furniture, etc., at the entrance of the bulk garage disposal room.
- The slogan "If you see something, say something" applies to trash as much as to security. If you see that someone is leaving behind a mess, speak up! Politely, of course. This is our neighborhood and home – let's keep it clean!

Happy and Healthy New Year

Cooperators in need of medical equipment or who would like to donate new medical equipment or supplies should contact Awilda and Warren Field in Building 1, intercom #338. Or, call the Management Office for their telephone number.

Telephone Help

Our building intercom is pretty cool. But suppose you're on your telephone and someone calls you from the lobby – ugh! what then? Easy! When you're talking on a regular telephone call and you hear a muted double overtone on your line, it indicates a call from the lobby. Dialing "3" will put your outside call on hold and connect you to your visitor. If you want to let the visitor enter, press "6", and then you'll be reconnected to your outside call. You can also refuse entry to the visitor by pressing "3", which will also reconnect you to the outside call. On the other hand, when you're talking to a visitor in the lobby and you hear a soft ringing overtone on your line, it indicates a regular incoming telephone call. Quickly finish your conversation with the visitor and press "6" to allow entry or "3" to refuse entry; either way, you'll be connected with the outside call.

Calling All Clubs!

Our co-op is a strong community and features a number of social clubs and specialty groups. Though well known to many long-time cooperators, the existence of these various groups may be new to many others – and of interest, too. So, in the next East River News, we would like to mention these groups, including yours, to help boost membership and support for your activities. Please let the House Committee know about your group, including the name, contact person, meetings, general activities, and any other important information. Thank you!