
EAST RIVER

NEWS

May – June 2010

PUBLISHED BY THE EAST RIVER HOUSE COMMITTEE

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THE HOUSE COMMITTEE is a group of your East River Co-op neighbors who are elected to advise and to report to the Board and Management on quality-of-life issues of importance to shareholders. The committee meets monthly and focuses on several areas, including grounds and maintenance, security, transportation and sustainability. We also arrange co-op get-togethers so that you can meet your neighbors and discuss your concerns. A Physical Plant Subcommittee conducts monthly walk-throughs noting maintenance issues and making suggestions for improvement. The committee also resolves disputes between owners. The newsletter is a means of communicating with residents and we hope that you will find it useful and interesting. We look forward to your comments and suggestions. You may contact us confidentially at our new email address, erhousecommittee@gmail.com or through the Management Office, 530 Grand Street. All written suggestions or concerns will be discussed at our meetings.

MORE NEW SIGNS AT EAST RIVER

We are very proud to have completed the second phase of our signage project with user-friendly, attractive, contemporary and stylish signs at the entrances to our parks on either side of Grand Street. The worn, mismatched signs are now just a memory. We now have maps of the property with a “you are here” symbol making it easier for visitors and delivery people. Special thanks to our resident graphic designer **Steve Phillips**, who created the signs and meticulously supervised their execution and installation. Steve is President of **Phillips Design** (sphillips6@nyc.rr.com, 917- 865-9239), which is well known for its work in signage, advertising, branding, marketing, logos, promotion and publication design. Steve worked pro bono.

NORC RAFFLE COMING SOON

Once again the Co-op Village NORC (Naturally Occurring Retirement Community) will be selling raffle tickets to support our seniors. There will be some very special surprise prizes this year so watch for NORC volunteers selling tickets in the lobbies. Books are \$5 for 6 tickets or \$1 each. Help support our community’s NORC!

PROMENADE PROMISE PROGRESS

Yes, our long-awaited **East River Promenade** is beginning to take shape. The section between the Williamsburg Bridge and Grand Street is almost finished and it’s looking great! Workers are busy installing slate tiles, soil, railings and lighting. Highly stylized steel and wood benches and coordinated railings reflecting the nautical theme of the project have been installed up to Delancey Street. The undulating, sweeping and flourishing theme of the design echoes the movement of the river itself and is evident in the railings, lighting and ground design. With any luck we will be taking a stroll along the river in a few months.

COMMUNITY BOARD WATERFRONT MEETING

The success of the East River waterfront will have a direct impact on our quality of life as well as on our property values. **Community Board 3** is asking for our input regarding what we would like to see in the riverfront park. So far, the loudest voices at the planning meetings have been the voices of opposition to change and gentrification. Owners of East River Co-op should make their voices heard. Light commercialization of (over)

our section of the waterfront will be discussed. Cafés, restaurants and shops are being considered which will create a much-needed revenue flow crucial to the maintenance of the riverfront park. Think **Battery Park City** and the **High Line**. This is about us, so come to the **Waterfront Subcommittee Meeting** on Wednesday, May 26 at 6:30 p.m. at the Abrons Arts Center on Grand Street. A second community input session for the entire Waterfront Project will be held at the Murray Bergrau High School at 411 Pearl Street on Tuesday, June 8 at 6:00 p.m. Your opinion counts so be there and have your voice heard. See you at CB3!

THE HESTER STREET FAIR COMES TO TOWN

“The hottest food fest of the season” according to **Time Out Magazine**, the **Hester Street Fair** officially opened on April 24. It is located at the corner of Essex and Hester Streets, which was once the home to New York City’s oldest and largest pushcart market. The project was spearheaded by MTV News Correspondent and Seward Park Co-op owner **SuChin Pak**. Her mission was to build on the past by selling quality goods and food while creating an attractive space reflecting the dynamic energy of the Lower East Side. **Brown Café**, the creative, stylish and laid-back restaurant on Hester Street will have a permanent presence at the market. The **Farmer’s Market** formerly on Grand and Essex Streets will permanently

move to the **Hester Street Fair**. The Fair will be open from April through December on weekends from 10am to 6pm. This is great news for our community. Welcome, **Hester Street Fair!**

CULTURE CORNER

One of New York’s best kept secrets, **Shakespeare in the Parking Lot** is coming back to our neighborhood this summer. The theater IS the municipal parking lot at the corner of Ludlow and Broome Streets. **The Drilling CompaNY** will be presenting updated yet faithful productions of **A Midsummer Night’s Dream** July 9-25 and **Measure for Measure** July 30-August 15. Performances are at 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays and admission is **FREE**. Come early and snag a chair or feel free to bring your own. The parking lot serves as the theater as well as the set and adds dramatic elements to the production. **The Drilling CompaNY** has served as a showcase for unique emerging artists from the Off-Broadway and Off-Off Broadway communities since 1999. Its philosophy is jazz-like, extending the same freedom in creation and production to theater that jazz provides to musicians. Meet you at the lot!

RESTAURANT RANTS AND RAVES

Let’s talk Thai. Our neighborhood has many great Thai restaurants worth trying – here are just a few. **Sticky Rice** at 85 Orchard Street (between Grand and Broome Streets) is in

an attractive, hip space and offers interesting takes on traditional Thai dishes. Try the Beggar’s Pouches, which are traditional Thai wishes for good fortune with shrimp, chicken and aromatic spices, or the Mango Flower Dumplings. **Thai Angel** at 141 Grand Street (Broadway) is inexpensive, reliable and tasty, serving such special dishes as Crab Roll Wrapped in Tofu. Back in the happening LES you can find **Eat-isode** at 123 Ludlow Street (between Delancey and Rivington Streets) or **Kuta Satay House** at 65 Rivington Street (between Eldridge and Allen Streets). **The Elephant** at 58 E. 1st Street (between 1st & 2nd Avenues) is a Thai-French late night spot that is a perennial neighborhood favorite. **Pukk** at 71 First Avenue (between 4th & 5th Streets) is a funky, green-themed all-vegetarian venue that is trendy, healthy and thrifty. Try **The Tai Terminal** at 349 E. 12th Street (between 1st and 2nd Avenues) for authentic, inexpensive Thai delights. While not strictly Thai, **Nyonya** at 199 Grand Street (between Mott and Mulberry Streets) is considered one of the best Malaysian restaurants in the city serving such Malaysian favorites as Home-Made Roti Canai (Indian pancakes with curry chicken) and a Baby Oyster Omelet. It’s very popular, especially on weekends, so come early and be prepared to wait.

CONTACT US by email at erhousecommittee@gmail.com or in writing through the management office.