

SPRING 2012

East  
River

# News



## **GUIDING LIGHT**

The House Committee is proud to bring you the new

“Guide to East

River Cooperative.” The Guide, which was created by House Committee member and East River News editor Julian Swearengen, is a helpful collection of information about various amenities and resources at East River and its surrounding community. Copies are available in the Management Office and online under “Cooperator’s Guide” at the East River website: <http://coopvillage.coop/eastRiverHC/erNewsDocs/>.

## **MEET THE NEIGHBORS**

The successful tour of “Meet the Neighbors” nights in the lobbies of Buildings 1 and 4 continues in Building 2 on April 23 from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm. These events are brought to you by the House Committee and are a great way to make connections with friends and neighbors over drinks and snacks.

## **HELP WANTED**

The House Committee is looking for volunteers with Photoshop, CAD, and 3D modeling expertise to help with future projects. If interested, please send a note to [erhousecommittee@gmail.com](mailto:erhousecommittee@gmail.com).

## **LET THE CHILDREN PLAY**

The East River Playroom, located at 573D Grand Street, is still accepting memberships. The annual price is \$175. To sign up send a note to [eastriverplayroom@gmail.com](mailto:eastriverplayroom@gmail.com). The Playroom is open 24 hours and can be rented for private parties.

## **VIVA LA FLACA**

Our friends at tasty local Mexican favorite La Flaca (384 Grand at Suffolk) are offering a 10% discount during May for all East River residents who present a copy of this review. Our undercover reporter noted: “The food is extremely tasty, well seasoned and inexpensive. My family of four had a wonderful lunch consisting of a thick guacamole, a spicy hamburger, a chorizo burrito, and my vegan daughter had a vegetable soup and a corn on the cob topped with Mexican cheese.”



## **CUP OF JOE**

Pushcart Coffee is now open at 221 East Broadway and is becoming a neighborhood treasure. Pushcart takes pride in brewing Stumptown Coffee and serving fresh pastries, sandwiches, and soups sourced from local farmers markets, bakeries, and kitchens, including those owned by



some of our neighbors. Inside their cozy space, Pushcart pairs a vintage aesthetic with 21st century technology to offer a comfortable and dynamic community space.

## **SPURRING DEVELOPMENT**

Plans for the Seward Park Urban Renewal Area are beginning to take shape:

- The development will encompass 1.65 million square feet on nine parcels.
- It will be a mixed-use project (40% commercial and 60% residential). There could be up to 100,000 square feet for community uses (medical centers, cultural facilities, etc.) Most buildings will include both

residential and commercial. Among the commercial uses under consideration are a movie theater, a hotel, and a relocated and enlarged Essex Street Market.

■ There are expected to be 900 residential units, half of which will be affordable housing.

## **A WORLD CLASS EDUCATION**

A uniquely new, internationally-focused private school has opened along the M-21 and M-14 bus lines at 2nd Street and Second Avenue. The World Class Learning Academy ([www.wclacademy.org](http://www.wclacademy.org)) offers children aged 2-11 a high-quality, international education aimed at preparing students to meet the growing challenges of a rapidly changing world. Students benefit from an academic program based on a unique combination of the International Primary Curriculum, the National Curriculum for England and Wales, and the highly respected International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme. Several East River residents have already enrolled at the school, which occupies the former site of the La Salle Academy.

## **TENNIS ANYONE?**

Tennis classes are offered for all levels every Friday and Saturday on outdoor courts just five blocks away at The Shuang Wen School (P.S. 184M; South Street and Montgomery). Classes are two hours and are limited to 6 students. The cost is \$40 and the coach is very experienced. To sign-up email [gbzinfo@aol.com](mailto:gbzinfo@aol.com).

Tennis is also offered in East River Park until November. Full-season permits for adults 18-61 cost \$200. Permits for seniors 62 and over

cost \$20, and permits for juniors below 18 cost \$10. One-hour single-play tickets cost \$15. Memberships and reservations are available at <http://www.nycgovparks.org/permits/tennis-permits> The courts are a part of The Brian Watkins Tennis Club, which opened in 1991, and is named for a 22-year-old tourist from Utah who was slain while attempting to protect his parents from subway muggers. The tennis club honors Watkins's avid interest in tennis.

## **FUN IN YOUR BACKYARD**

Join your neighbors for two fun filled Saturdays this Spring planting, cleaning, and helping to spruce up the landscaped areas of East River Park.

On Saturday April 21 from 9 am - 2 pm, families and friends from Grace Church School are planning a park clean-up day. Team Leaders are needed to help facilitate gardening activities.

On Saturday, May 19 from 9 am - 2 pm, East River Park will host the annual IT'S MY PARK DAY, a day of events, fun and volunteer activities for the whole community. Come to the Fire Boat House at the Grand Street Plaza and meet your neighbors while helping to spruce up the park.

No gardening experience is necessary for either event, but a willingness to get dirty is definitely a plus. For more information or to volunteer, please contact the Lower East Side



Ecology Center at 212-477-4022 or [info@lesecolgycenter.org](mailto:info@lesecolgycenter.org).

Fans of East River Park should also keep an eye out for the annual Summer Stage calendar of events, including concerts and performances scheduled for the band shell. Be sure to check <http://www.summerstage.org/index.html> for updates.

## **REDISTRICTING**

As a result of a complex redistricting process following the 2010 Census, All of East River Cooperative will be in Representative Nydia Velazquez' district, while Sheldon Silver and Daniel Squadron will continue to be our Assemblyman and State Senator starting in January, provided they are re-elected. City Council district lines are still being redrawn.

## **MAKING A POINT**

Local Law 11 requires repair work to be done on East River's brickwork every 10 to 15 years. Scaffolding will be required for each building being repaired. You will not need to remove your air conditioner, and blinds and curtains should be closed if you have privacy concerns. The work is scheduled to begin soon and should be completed by December 2012.

## **EAST RIVER HOUSE COMMITTEE**

The East River News is brought to you by the House Committee, a group of your East River Cooperative neighbors who are elected to advise the Board and Management Office on issues of importance to shareholders. You may contact us through the Management Office or confidentially at [erhousecommittee@gmail.com](mailto:erhousecommittee@gmail.com).