

Autumn LTTA Info

Happy Holidays

from your London Terrace Tenants Association

YOUR LTTA BOARD hopes that everyone has a healthy and happy holiday season. With all the challenges of traveling and gathering in 2020, your community here in London Terrace may be more vital than ever. Please take a moment to read this news and see what's going on...and how you can be a part.

HOLIDAY STAFF GRATUITIES Every year, your LTTA helps tenants say THANK YOU to the building staff. If you don't know whom to thank, the answers are on the back of this newsletter.

START SPREADING THE NEWS For the latest news, make sure you're on our tenant email list. If you have news to share, please write it up & send it. To get in touch, find us at **Tenants@LTta.info**

BUT DON'T SPREAD ANYTHING ELSE You know the drill by now: wear a mask in the halls, wash your hands at home, ride the elevators with your own people, and stay 6 feet away from others.

THE FUTURE OF RENT REGULATIONS

Your tenants association is very much involved in protecting rent regulations. Our rent laws were strengthened substantially last year, after decades of struggle by the tenants' movement. Once again, landlords are in court challenging the constitutionality of the laws with multiple federal lawsuits.

Veteran tenant activist Michael McKee of Tenants PAC <tenantspac.org> (which the LTta supports) says we shouldn't panic. Even with the rightward drift of the courts under Trump, McKee says, "if the courts have any respect for precedent the laws will continue to be upheld."

In 2005, the Supreme Court upheld rent control in Hawaii in a 9-0 decision written by Sandra Day O'Connor and joined by Justices Scalia and Thomas. And the last legal challenge to the NY rent laws in 2012 was not even heard by the high court.

There is also concern about the vacancy rate in rental housing reaching the 5% threshold that ends the "rent emergency" necessary for the laws to stay in place. Vacancies are high in Manhattan but more stable in the boroughs. (There are 11 apartments being advertised for rental here at London Terrace Gardens.) McKee said that the survey of rental stock will be conducted in the spring and the results released in Dec. or Jan.

The state legislature is set to come back in Dec. to take up renewal of a moratorium on evictions due to the pandemic. We will keep you posted on how you can keep the pressure on Albany to protect tenants.

UPDATE ON THE HIGH LINE

We were briefed by the Community Engagement folks at the High Line who report that it is now open daily, 12 to 8 pm, from Gansevoort St. to 30th St. For safety and healthful distancing, all visitors must enter at the corner of Gansevoort St. and Washington St. or at 23rd St. and move northward. Since capacity is limited, free timed-entry passes are available for visits at www.thehighline.org/visit/. Walk-on visits without advanced reservation are also allowed. Stairs at 14th, 16th, 17th, 20th, 26th, 28th, and 30th Streets are exit-only. Elevators at Gansevoort, 14th, 23rd, and 30th Streets will be available for entry or exit for people with mobility access needs, but only northward movement is permitted. The section between 30th St. and 11th Av. and 34th St. and 12th Av. is closed. If you try to enter at access points in this section, signage will direct you to the Gansevoort Street or 23rd Street entry. The Hudson Yards ramp will be exit-only. At 30th St., you will be able to go from the High Line to Hudson Yards. In order to maintain one-way movement, access from Hudson Yards back to the High Line will be closed.

FIND SO MUCH MORE ON OUR WEBSITE

You'll find news, staff photos, older newsletters, the building history, a 2021 membership link, & more.

Visit us online & learn more at

www.LTTA.info

HOLY APOSTLES SOUP KITCHEN IS ON TRACK TO SERVE ONE MILLION IN 2020

Your LTTA donated \$1,000 to provide meals for many people in need who come to Holy Apostles. The following comes from a letter of thanks sent to all of us, from the Holy Apostles management.

"A heartfelt thank you for your support of Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen, New York's largest soup kitchen. Because you were there for us, we were able to be there for a record number of New Yorkers who turned to our Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry, many for the first time in their lives.

This year has been incredibly difficult for everyone, no matter their circumstances. While nothing could've prepared us for the whirlwind that was 2020, we are so incredibly grateful you stood by our side and ensured we had the resources needed to stay open during a scary and uncertain year.

You have made it possible for us to accomplish so much and surpass our projections in 2020:

- We are setting a record for meals served throughout our 38-year history.
- We have served over 900,000 meals in 2020 and are on track to serve 1 million meals by year-end. (For reference, in 2019 we served 344,000 meals)
- The pantry has grown from operating one day a week, to operating three days a week. In 2019, it served about 80 households per week. Last week, we saw almost 600 households.
- We're also delivering meals to people living on the streets who can't make it to the Soup Kitchen.
- We now offer our space as a Warming Center on nights when the weather drops below freezing (while taking all proper COVID-19 precautions).

You made it possible for us to ensure we did not run out of food, and nobody went away empty-handed.

As a thank you, here is a short video slideshow with photos of some of the guests you've helped:

www.tinyurl.com/y36xuvku

We hope you have lovely and safe holidays."

Nichole & the Staff at Holy Apostles Soup Kitchen

Can you help Holy Apostles with time or donations?

www.HolyApostlesSoupKitchen.org 646-998-6101

STAY SAFE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

With fewer pedestrians and more people who have been sadly displaced by the pandemic, there's been a slight uptick in local crime. We've asked the 10th Precinct to send more patrol cars and officers. We are told police are focusing on 7th & 8th Aves. from 20th to 23rd Streets. We all must keep pushing the city to house the homeless and treat the mentally ill. Meanwhile, be alert and aware of your surroundings.

OUR NEW LTTA BOARD MEMBERS

We would like to welcome and congratulate our two newest board members, Mark McManus and Dennis Mai. Mark has been a wonderful friend and asset to the board, volunteering and helping us for quite some time now. Dennis, too, has stepped up and volunteered to advance the work of the LTTA.

The LTTA has been working to improve life for everyone living at LTG since 1953! -- and we are deeply grateful to those who had the foresight and dedication to start it all—and the tenacity to keep it going!

LISTEN TO YOUR NEIGHBORS:

New York City Community Chorus

Choristers in the NYCCC include London Terrace residents from both the Gardens and the Towers. The Chorus has been active since 1994, gathering at Holy Apostles church to share the joy of singing, although we're online during the pandemic. We are providing small gifts during the time when we cannot perform for our usual overflow audiences. These one-piece virtual concerts are at our website and later on YouTube. Our latest, "Save the Country" by Laura Nyro, was produced just in time for the national elections. You can see and hear it on our website www.NYCCHA.org

or on YouTube at : tinyurl.com/y5eatmdr

We'll keep sharing virtual performances until larger gatherings are safe enough for in-person concerts.

American Classical Orchestra Enjoy free online lectures and concerts by NY's leading period piece orchestra. www.ACONYC.org They write:

"The upcoming season will be a bit different: with a combination of new digital projects providing unique insight into the music, and livestream performances featuring ACO musicians and guest artists. This Fall, we're excited to share with you two special digital projects – free of charge – to uplift & entertain. Then, we'll kick off a series of livestreamed concerts in January – which, depending on the conditions at the time, may be able to welcome live audiences."

REMEMBERING FRANK MEADE

Frank Meade lived in London Terrace longer than maybe anyone. He was born here in 1949, succeeded his mother in the apartment where he grew up, and died here of heart failure on Nov. 1, just shy of his 71st birthday. Frank was active on behalf of other rent-controlled tenants at London Terrace. He was a Vietnam veteran of the US Coast Guard and organized the annual neighborhood commemoration of Veteran's Day at the World War I monument on Ninth Av. outside the city health clinic. He also was a lead organizer of the Father Mychal Judge 9/11 Walk of Remembrance honoring the fire chaplain who perished at the World Trade Center and all the first responders who died there.

His friend Joan Barton, the choir director at Guardian Angels Church where Frank sang, said that Frank was a graduate of Dwight School and Wagner College on Staten Island and did graduate work at the New School and NYU. He had a varied career including hospital administration, was a fraud investigator at Blue Cross, and an administrator with the American Mission Hospital in Bahrain. He traveled all over the world and spoke several languages, but his heart was always here at London Terrace.

LOCAL BUSINESSES NEED OUR HELP

Don Giovanni Restaurant opened its doors in 1990 as a family operation at 214 10th Ave and became a neighborhood favorite with its inviting atmosphere, custom-built brick oven, and savory Italian cuisine. They serve everything from rustic brick-oven pizzas, decadent pasta dishes, fresh salads, and comforting soups like the signature pasta Fagioli. They have a great selection of wines and cocktails to complement each meal...with safe, free delivery. Don Giovanni has also shown its support for our neighborhood and city throughout the years, aiding in the recoveries of the 2004 NYC Blackout and tragedy of September 11th, providing comfort and refuge to those in need, and donating services to a variety of relief efforts. During the peak of COVID-19, Don Giovanni quickly implemented strict health guidelines and expanded delivery service to provide for over 60 city blocks. Let's keep good neighbors in the neighborhood!

www.dongiovanni-ny.com

F. Rozzo & Sons Seafood is back at 159 9th Ave. Louis Rozzo writes: We have been a seafood distributor since 1900. Our business has plummeted since the outbreak of Covid. With restaurants closed, I was extremely lucky to have space for a pop-up retail business. Never experiencing a retail business before, I wasn't sure what to expect and how long I would keep the retail store open. As days went on I began to enjoy my relationships with the warm, caring and resilient people of Chelsea during the hardships of the pandemic. This inspired me to make my retail store permanent. To do so I had to change everything. The electrical and plumbing had to be restructured. I put in coolers & freezers. And I was so proud to get an "A" from health inspectors. I take great pride in knowing that my seafood will end up as the final product on tables all across Chelsea. I made a vow to myself that I would never sell anything I would not feed my family. I am honored to be a part of this great neighborhood and will strive every day to have the best fresh seafood at reasonable prices for you in London Terrace and Chelsea.

Sincerely, Louis Rozzo www.frozzoandsons.com

The Hudson Guild provides many community services, and now offers online classes, live streaming events, and more. Please check them out & support them if you are able. www.hudsonguild.org

BUILDING SAFETY

- Don't let strangers follow you in the door. Speak up! Ask them to go past a doorman.
- Be alert—Crime is rising in the area.
- Wear a proper mask in all common areas.
- Ride elevators alone or with your family group.
- Remember to wash those hands!

Please ask elderly neighbors how you can help

GOT NEWS, QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

Your neighbors are here to help Send us an email today!

Inge Ivchenko

President, London Terrace Tenants Association
Tenants@LTTA.info

Your \$35 annual membership pays for itself. And you can pay online!

- > Support your Tenants Association.
- > Improve life in your building and community.
- > Protect tenants' rights at home and citywide.
- > Get special DISCOUNTS at local businesses.

Help your neighbors. Help yourself. Join today.
Find us at www.LTTA.info

'TIS THE SEASON TO SAY THANK YOU!

to all the London Terrace staff

OUR WONDERFUL STAFF HELP US IN SO MANY WAYS, ALL YEAR LONG

In regular years, we thank our staff for keeping our building clean, keeping track of our packages (especially during the holidays!), and keeping us safe at the door. It's a tremendous job they do, and they always do it well...with a smile.

During this unusual pandemic year, each of these responsibilities has been that much more vital.

HERE'S HOW THE LTТА HELPS TENANTS SAY THANK YOU

* WE PRODUCE THE HOLIDAY POSTER in the concierge area which features each staff member.

* WE POST THE PHOTOS at www.LTTA.info to put a *who's who* on staff right on your phone.

* WE GAVE GIFT CERTIFICATES on behalf of the tenants for meals at the Chelsea Square Diner.

*** You can give gifts or gift cards directly to the people you know who help improve your life throughout the year.**

*** You can give to the general gratuity fund, shared by the staff. Just leave your gift in the box next to our poster by the concierge.**

*** Got holiday snacks to share? Bring them to the package room!**

DO WE HAVE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION FOR EMAILS WITH IMPORTANT TENANT NEWS?

ARE YOU A MEMBER OF YOUR TENANTS ASSOCIATION? WE DO SO MUCH FOR SO LITTLE.

There are so many ways to pay your \$35 dues. 1) Pay online at www.LTTA.info

2) Give your building captain the check 420/10E 430/17E 440/9B 450/12A 460/3B 415/9C 425/6A 445/4F

3) Leave it at the package room for Inge Ivchenko, LTТА President, 415/9C. 4) Bring it to the party

5) Mail your form to LTТА, PO Box 20063, London Terrace Station, New York, NY 10011-0063.

Writing a check? Please make it payable to "LTТА"

BUILDING _____ APT. # _____

TENANT 1 _____ Email _____ Tenant 1 phone _____

TENANT 2 _____ Email _____ Tenant 2 phone _____

Annual dues of \$35: \$ _____ Donation to legal fund: \$ _____ Total Donation \$ _____

Be a good neighbor.
Find out more at www.LTTA.info