

# The Park West Tenant

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The Newsletter of the Park West Village Tenants' Association info@pwvta.org October 2008

## Neighbors Helping Neighbors a Park West Community Network in formation

"Neighbors Helping Neighbors in Small Ways That Make a Big Difference" is the theme of the Resident Resources Directories now in various stages of preparation in each of the seven Park West Village buildings.

One such directory has been in use in 400 CPW for several years, with neighbors offering occasional help to take in mail, water plants, feed a pet, stand by for a delivery, keep company to a medical appointment — a wide list of small tasks neighbors can offer or need on occasion.

A website which will list wider community services is also underway. The directories and website are initial projects of the Park West Community Network (PWCN), a newly-formed organization for all PWV residents.

A group of PWV residents decided to form PWCN after visiting other Manhattan apartment complexes which have set-up similar social and security support networks.

For further information or to help with the website or directories, please call 212-865-3078.

## HISTORY CORNER

"The Old Community" — the people who lived on 98th and 99th Streets in the 1950s before their buildings were razed and Park West Village replaced them — continues to come back from near and far for an annual reunion in our neighborhood.

The Old Community has contributed text and photos to the Neighborhood History Collection at Bloomingdale Library on 100th Street and to the permanent Neighborhood history exhibit and briefing book at the 24th Precinct police station on 100th Street. Visitors welcome.

**Hold the date:** Thursday, November 6, from 6–8 pm, at the Bloomingdale Library on 100th Street: "The History and Future of Our Neighborhood's Underground Waters."

## LAWSUIT VS. RGB FILED

Floored by the rising cost of city rents, tenants and city officials converged on the steps of City Hall on September 17 to announce a lawsuit against New York City's Rent Guidelines Board.



The lawsuit, brought by the Legal Aid Society and Legal Services of New York, charges that the RGB exceeded its statutory authority — its authority to enforce the law or create rules to implement the law — when it imposed, according to a press release from the Legal Aid Society, "...a poor tax' against low-income tenants".

The lawsuit specifically counters the adoption of the 2008 Apartment and Loft Law #40, which increases the rents of tenants who have lived in a low-rent apartment for more than six years and pay less than \$1,000 a month in rent.

## BUILDING MEETINGS 784, 788, 792 COLUMBUS AVENUE

In September, the Columbus Avenue buildings held their annual meetings to elect three Representatives and three Alternate Reps per building.

The newly elected Reps and Alternates will serve and vote on the PWVTA Executive Board.

### 2008 PWVTA Building Representatives and Alternate Representatives:

**784 Columbus Ave** – Building Reps: Mary Livingston, Daphne Myers, Jeanne Roitman. Alternates: Dan Dunbar, Edward Growney, Maggi Peyton.

**788 Columbus Ave** – Building Reps: Vivian Dee, Albina De Meio, Milton Mankopf. Alternates: Fran Handman, Anne Wangh, Maureen Wilson.

**792 Columbus Ave** – Building Reps: Kathy Bergman, Clare Dockery. Alternates: Adam Resnick, Sarah Wood.

Watch for notices of meetings in other buildings, and more info on our website: [www.PWVTA.org](http://www.PWVTA.org).

**Westiders for Public Participation  
JOIN-IN FOR PWV ACTION NOW!**

Events to coordinate action to uphold the legal right of Park West Village community stakeholders to participation in planning:

- **Injunction hearing:** Wednesday, October 15, New York State Supreme Court, 60 Centre St., Room 321, 9:30am. Transportation will be available for \$10 at 8:15am at northwest corner of Columbus Ave. & 96th St. Last car leaves at 8:30am.
- **BSA preparation session with Attorney Jack Lester:** Wednesday, October 22, 382 CPW community room, 7:30–9pm.
- **Zoning appeal hearing:** Tuesday, October 28, New York City Board of Standards & Appeals, 40 Rector St., 9th fl. Time to be announced. Watch for transportation options.

Participation in each event is vitally important to uphold the laws, defend our rights, and guarantee the legal right of Park West Village community stakeholders to participation in community-based planning.

The WPP’s purpose: “to fulfill the citizens’ obligation to hold New York City government accountable to the law.”

The PWVTA Executive Board voted to urge PWVTA members to join with other members of the community to support WPP’s legal action with individual contributions.

Checks to: Westiders for Public Participation, Inc., P.O. Box 20093, Park West Station, New York, NY 10025

Or online: <http://snipurl.com/westsiders>  
Get direct updates: [westsiders@earthlink.net](mailto:westsiders@earthlink.net)

**PWVTA SUPPORTS TENANTS PAC**

Edrie Cote, President of the London Terrace Tenants Association, spoke to the Executive Board September 15, seeking the support of the PWVTA for the Real Rent Reform Campaign, sponsored by Tenants PAC and others.

The PWVTA Executive Board voted unanimously to contribute to Tenants PAC and to distribute a leaflet for all tenants urging them to contribute individually. The flyer PDF is available at [www.PWVTA.org](http://www.PWVTA.org).

**PWVTA EXECUTIVE BOARD  
VOTES FOR QUIET SATURDAYS**

After CB7 District Manager Penny Ryan sent us a request from Gotham Construction for a dispensation to off-load sheet rock into 801 Amsterdam on eight Saturdays, the Executive Board voted unanimously at its September meeting to deny permission, pending clarification. Of particular concern was early-morning noise disrupting the Jewish Sabbath.

**The PWVTA Executive Board** usually meets on the third Tuesday of the month. PWVTA members are welcome to attend. Next meeting: Tuesday, October 21, 7:30 pm, at the Ryan Health Center, 110 W. 97th Street, downstairs.

Produced by PWVTA Communications Committee.  
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 **JOIN YOUR NEIGHBORS – RENEW NOW!**

**PLEASE RETURN THIS MEMBERSHIP / ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP COUPON  
TO YOUR BUILDING REPRESENTATIVE OR MAIL TO:**

Park West Village Tenants’ Association  
P.O. Box 20339, Park West Finance Station, New York, NY 10025-0339

Name: ..... Building: ..... Apt.: ..... Phone: .....

Rent-stabilized tenant  Market-rate tenant  Renting from private owner  Owner Email: .....

Check for 2008 membership dues enclosed, **payable to PWVTA**  \$40  Other\*: \$.....

Check for 2008 associate membership dues enclosed, **payable to PWVTA**  \$35.....

Check includes additional contribution to Legal fund. Amount: .....

☆ If you cannot make full \$40 payment of your annual dues, please pay what you can.  
Your membership card will be delivered to you.