

# the 102nd-103rd street block association inc.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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### FROM SMALL BEGINNINGS

From small beginnings, great things grow. Little more than an idea two months ago, The 102nd - 103rs Street Block Association has become a reality.

Originally planned to meet the common need and interests of the people living on 103 Street between Broadway and Riverside Dr., and West End Ave. between 102nd and 103rd Streets, the association's steering committee voted to include 102nd Street. The interest expressed by the residents of 102 Street have been overwhelming and pooling our resources will certainly strengthen the association.

Presently, the association has 400 paid up members; its goal is to have every house, and every family, join. Incorporation papers have been approved by the State of New York, rules and by-laws drawn up; committees have been meeting weekly, sometimes more. Details of the various committees, their functions--what they have already accomplished and hope to accomplish are spelled out elsewhere in this newsletter.

A general membership meeting is planned for June 9th at the Masters Institute (103 St. and Riverside Dr.). All are welcome; to vote, you must be a paid member. We need your help--to make our neighborhood safer, greener, pleasanter, cleaner. To join, watch for our outdoor tables, contact one of the committee chairmen listed in this paper, or see your building representative. If you don't have one, it's high time you did, and joined the association in its work.

### HELP US CELEBRATE

We are coordinating plans for our first street festival. We very sincerely hope we can plan a festival that will celebrate our new unity. In doing so, we are anxious to make use of the wealth of talents and energies of all our neighbors. If you wish to serve in any way, PLEASE attend the next meeting of the committee on May 24th, 8 PM. It will be at Carol Goldsteins, 878 West End Avenue, Apt 10B. Help us truly celebrate.

### THE END OF RENT CONTROL?

Unless we act now, Rockefeller's proposal to completely abolish Rent Control will pass in the State Legislature this week.

When passed, this bill would allow landlords to pass on to tenants increases in taxes, labor costs, fuel bills, etc. in an endless spiral of increasing rents. There will be NO effective mechanism for halting capricious increases, nor for insuring that buildings are kept in good repair.

Block Associations, civic groups and various public officials are engaged in an intensive campaign to stop this proposal from passing.

### YOUR HELP IS NEEDED ! ! !

Call the following numbers (It's too late to write) and tell these key legislators that they must oppose Rockefeller's rent proposal. These legislators are still undecided on the bill. (Our own Assemblyman and Senator are already opposed to the bill.

Assembly: 957-7083	Senate: 582-1710
Lopresto (Queens)	Calandra (Bronx)
Gallagher (Queens)	Knorr (Bklyn.)
Riccio (Bklyn.)	Conklin (Bklyn.)
De Carlo (Bklyn.)	Levy (Nassau)
	Flynn (Yonkers)
	Langley (Albany)

The above phone numbers are Tie-Lines. That means you can call Albany for only one local message unit (just like a neighborhood call).

Even if we succeed in stopping the Governor's bill, we will still be living under the new Rent Control Law passed last year by the city. Under this law, a computer will establish new rents effective January, 1972. Preliminary figures show they may go as high as \$80 per room for most West Side buildings. Under this law, there will be no effective way to insure that buildings will be kept in good repair. So, in other words, this new Rent Control Law is unfairly bias in favor of landlords.



**RENT CONTROL Cont.**

We must do 2 things at once - Not only must we stop the Governor's bill which would end Rent Control, but also we must get the new Rent Control Law changed. There is currently a city-wide petition campaign to put on the ballot a proposal which would repeal this new Rent Control Law until a more just law can be worked out. You must sign this petition. Help is needed to circulate the petition, to man telephones, etc.

If you wish to help, contact George Kalor Chairman of the Housing Committee at: 866-7929.

**WE CAN SAVE RENT CONTROL IF WE ALL  
WORK TOGETHER!**

**SAFETY FIRST**

It all depends on you

The goal of putting a guard on 103 Street is near attainment. We need about 50 more payments. Turn in your \$15 check (3 months payment) made out to the 102-103 Street Block Association ("for deposit only in payment of guard" on back of check). Don't put off until tomorrow the safety you need today! The check can be given to your house representative or to the doorman at 875 West End, c/o S. Arnold.

A combined campaign for membership, and checks for a guard on 102 St. is underway. Volunteers are needed to help. Remember, two guards may not be cheaper than one, but they provide more than twice the protection.

The Safety Committee has asked for an inspection of lighting on our streets from the Department of Gas and Electricity.

We ask all neighbors to keep their eyes peeled for the person throwing bottles from a high place on to 103 Street. The bottles seem to have been aimed at children playing on the street.

Note: Safety Committee meeting, Wednesday, May 26 at 8:30 PM, Apt. 5F, Arnold, 875 West End. Bring yourself and checks.

**WE LOVE YOU**

The Ecology Committee can only say a very humble thank you to our neighbors for all your help and generous contributions to our tree fund. We raised enough money to plant 45 trees on our blocks.

The wells for these trees will be dug in the fall, and the trees planted early next spring.

We're currently investigating various methods of fencing and hope to have flower beds around the trees.

The garbage re-cycling program is being organized. A separate sheet will be out within a week to let you know what we can recycle and where to drop it off.

We are coordinating efforts with a number of other Ecology groups to help clean our streets and to bring Riverside Park back to its natural beauty.

If enough interest is shown, we will try to organize a food co-op. This will better quality and cheaper food prices for you.

Try and come to our next meeting, (we're friendly) and help make this a more beautiful area.

The meeting will be at Barry Johnsons, 875 West End, Apt. 7E on May 27th at 8:00 PM

**HARD-WORKING HOUSING**

The newly formed housing committee has been working hard together with other groups throughout the city to save rent control (see "Rent Control", pg 1). In addition an organizational meeting was held recently to discuss functioning of the committee. Tentative plans would see the committee as a sort of advisor and resource on housing problems. Member buildings would receive help in such areas advantages and disadvantages of co-oping, how to plan a rent strike what to do if your landlord won't repair your building, etc. Next Meeting: Thurs. May 27th, 8:30 PM, 878 West End, Apt 7b. All Welcome.

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Social Committee-5/24, 8PM, 878 WEA apt 10B  
Ecology- 5/27, 8PM 875 WEA, Apt 7E  
Safety-5/28, 8:30PM, 875 WEA Apt 5F  
Housing-5/27, 8:30 PM, 878 WEA apt 7B  
General Membership- June 9th, Masters Inst.