

From the MPTA President...

As summer begins to wind down and we look ahead to the fall, I hope everyone has had an opportunity to enjoy the season and spend some time with family, friends, and neighbors. There is a lot happening around Manhattan Plaza, and I'm excited to share some updates and upcoming events with you.

■ Mark your calendars for our **BLOCK FESTIVAL on Sept. 19th** and our **FOOD & ARTS FESTIVAL on Sept. 29th**.

Both events are wonderful opportunities to come together, get rid of some stuff laying around the house, support our neighbors, and celebrate the creativity and diversity that make Manhattan Plaza such a special community. We are looking for musical performers for both events! If you are a musician, singer, band— or know someone

who would like to participate— please let us know. We would love to showcase the talent within our community.

■ We are also beginning preparations for a very special milestone: Manhattan Plaza's **50th Anniversary**, coming up on **June 27, 2027!** If you would like to be involved, volunteer your time, or have ideas about how we should celebrate 50 years of Manhattan Plaza, please reach out to us or come to the organizational meeting in September.

There are many **important capital improvement projects** taking place throughout the property. ■ The project to add two additional **ADA-accessible laundry rooms** in each building is in process. Completed laundry rooms are **400/12th floor & 484/35th floor**. Additional laundries are underway **400/43rd floor & 484/7th floor**.

(continued on page 3 —>)

COMMITTEE REPORTS



Block Festival Committee

Planning for the **2026 Block Festival** is underway. Applications are rolling in. If you need an application, let us know and we will email to you or deliver to your door if you need a hard copy. Email us at mptenants@gmail.com or leave a note in the lobby box.

Raffle Sales begin on Wednesday, August 19 in our lobbies. \$2 each or \$15 for a book of 10 tickets. Small bills or exact change is appreciated. Our awesome Prize Patrol is getting prizes from our loyal neighborhood businesses:

Broadnosh Bagels
 Chez Josephine
 Claudios Pizza
 Cubby's; 43rd Street Fruit Stand
 Ideal Farm & Garden (Thursday Market)
 Little Pie Company
 Poseidon Bakery
 Stony Hill Farms (Saturday Market)
 Thriftway Pharmacy
 Vocal Lesson - Beverly Myers
 Yoga & Anti-Gravity Fitness Lab
 with more to come !

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Families & Children's Committee

The committee welcomes its new co-chairs April Hovelson, Tunesia Kirkland and Nitara Bowie. We're planning a September meeting to kick off plans for the upcoming year so watch your email for more information. If you are interested in participating, please let us know. Send a note to the MPTA email, mptenants@gmail.com. Or leave a note in the lobby box with your contact info!

Seniors Committee

Curious about the Seniors' Committee? Come to our next meeting! **Monday, Sept 14, 3:30-5:00** in the Manhattan Plaza Health Club Conference Room (enter under the orange MPHCC canopy, first door on the right). The Committee addresses matters affecting all groups of MP Seniors.



MP Summer Camp Success!

Camp was once again a resounding success. Can you believe that this is the 7th year of our MP camp that was birthed in just two weeks in 2020 during COVID. Over 60 kids from MP enrolled in six FREE weeks of music, art and athletic programs.



Our thanks to

- **Irving Gonzalez** (MP Management)
- **Oliver Baron** (Camp Director)
- **Bert Price** (Music Director)
- **Dade Faison/Coach D** (Sports Instructor)
- **Shawn Ross** (Aquatics Director)

and the team of **eight young counselors** who brought so much talent and enthusiasm to the program.

Many of the staff live here so this is truly a program **OF** MP people **FOR** MP people. This next generation of MP performers is on the move. (*Watch out Timothée and Alicia...*) The kids will perform at the Block Festival on September 19 and the Food & Arts Festival in the Fall.



Congestion Pricing Committee

On August 7, our local elected officials (**Brad Holyman-Sigal, Jerry Nadler, Erik Bottcher, Tony Simone and Carl Wilson**) co-signed a letter to the Executive Director of the Port Authority of NY& NJ and the Chair and CEO of the MTA asking on behalf of

MP residents, that the cameras on 42nd Street adjacent to our garage, be relocated, so that MP tenants who park in our parking garage are no longer erroneously charged tolls for driving within the Congestion Relief Zone. **A copy of the full letter is posted on our MP lobby boards**, the MPTA Facebook page and our website. **Thank you, gentlemen, for supporting us.** We will share updates as they occur.

Farm to Seniors

We are working with Carl Wilson's office (Council District 3) to determine if MP can become a distribution site for the "Farm to Seniors" fresh vegetables and fruit program. In the meantime, check our lobby bulletin boards for information to sign-up individually for the program via current locations throughout the Fall.



50th Anniversary Committee



Interested in helping with the MP Celebration of 50 Years??

An organizational meeting is planned for September in the Ellington Room.

Watch for exact date and time--to be announced!

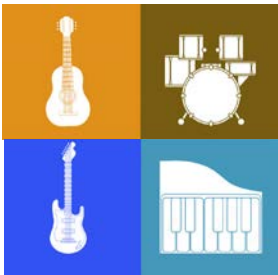
MP NEWS & ACTIVITIES



MP Theatre Group

A theatre group here at Manhattan Plaza for Seniors. Giving seniors opportunities to continue their

craft in a supportive environment. (Must be age 60 or older). IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING please write to: **MPtheatre-project@gmail.com**



Practice Rooms

We have 4 beautiful practice rooms (2 in each building), available to residents virtually 24 hours a

day. The rooms are managed by our Manhattan Plaza Practice Room Committee. Residents must register and attend a short orientation to use the rooms - please email mppr484@gmail.com to make that happen. Thanks to all our residents for your part in keeping our rooms in shape and following our guidelines. The latest "quality of life" improvements include double slots available in the 400 building, as well as music stand racks in both buildings. ***Thanks to Irving, Diana, Bruce and Jason and all the building management and staff for their support! Thanks to current co-chairs Colin Taber and Mike Ritz for running the show!***



MP Choir

Fall rehearsals begin on Friday, Sept. 11, from 10 to 12 Noon in the Ellington Room. If

you are interested in participating, contact Irving Gonzalez at irving.gonzalez@related.com or stop by on September 11th.

Get LIT.erature !

SENIOR BOOK GROUPS

We meet the **1st & 3rd Tuesdays from 4-6:00 pm** and the **1st & 3rd Wednesdays from 12:00-2:00 pm**. We read a little bit of everything, and have a good time.

CURIOUS? Contact Ellen Pearre Cason **EPCason@gmail.com** for more information and current meeting locations. We expect to meet regularly in the 484 Community Space when renovations are complete in several months.



BOOK EXCHANGE

The next **MP FREE Book Exchange** is set for Sunday afternoon, **October 18, 2026**. Watch for more details in the Fall.

Questions? Contact the Book Exchange
Chair at jridgemha@aol.com.

President's Note (continued from page 1)

■ An overhaul of the **ventilation systems serving apartment kitchens and bathrooms** is happening. This will help balance airflow in these areas while also improving energy efficiency. ■ The first phase of the **women's locker room renovation** has been completed, with Phase Two scheduled to be completed in early 2027. ■ You may also have noticed some of the **new deck furniture and planters** appearing throughout our outdoor common areas. These improvements help make our shared spaces more welcoming and enjoyable for everyone.

As always, the MPTA will continue to keep residents informed about these projects and advocate for the needs and concerns of our community. Please continue to share your questions, ideas, and concerns with us. [mp tenants@gmail.com] Your participation and engagement are essential to making sure Manhattan Plaza remains a vibrant, accessible and welcoming home for us all.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the meeting in September and of course at the upcoming events!

Warmly,

Alta

Aleta LaFargue, President
Manhattan Plaza Tenants Association

BUILDING NEWS

(Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards) Apartments:

Completion of the first few apartments is planned for September and MP will arrange for tenants to view the new fit-outs in the various studio, one and two-bedroom units. Watch for LOFT notices for more information.

484 Community Space

Completion of the new space is anticipated for year end. Management will meet with tenant representatives from the Executive, Design and Policy Committees to review furniture and use plans.

Attention MP Mitchell Lama Tenants:

The income eligibility threshold for the state/city rent freeze programs of SCRIE (Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption) and DRIE (Disability Rent Increase Exemption) has been increased from \$50,000 annually to \$75,000, effective June 2027 per recent passage of the NY State budget. For more general information and applications regarding the existing program, check www.nyc.gov/hpd website. The program is administered by the NYC Dept. of Housing Preservation and Development (HPD) and applicants must apply directly to HPD, NOT Manhattan Plaza.



Celebrate Five Years of the MP Food & Arts Festival on September 29th!

This year marks the 5th Annual Manhattan Plaza Food & Arts Festival, and we're excited to once again bring our community together for an afternoon of creativity, connection and celebration.

Join us as we showcase the incredible artistic talents of our residents through live performances while enjoying delicious food from some of our favorite local restaurants. This special event celebrates the vibrant spirit, diversity and passion for the arts that make Manhattan Plaza such a unique community. Come out and celebrate with your neighbors!

Stay tuned for event details and artists submission info coming soon.

2026 MPTA Meeting Schedule

MPTA Meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month, per the MPTA Constitution.

7 pm is the usual meeting time.



Sept. 14

Oct. 12

Nov. 9

Dec. 14

EC Election

MPTA September Meeting will be on **MONDAY, Sept 14th at 7pm** **In Person**

in the Ellington Room

or listen, via ZOOM

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431571248?pwd=](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431571248?pwd=1xxFh3cxNgLu9VQ2fxjLcL0hEaUVIS.1)

[1xxFh3cxNgLu9VQ2fxjLcL0hEaUVIS.1](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85431571248?pwd=1xxFh3cxNgLu9VQ2fxjLcL0hEaUVIS.1)

Passcode: 453433

Dial IN: +1 646 558 8656

Meeting ID: 854 3157 1248

**Link to meetings is ALWAYS on
the home page of our website:**

www.mptenants.net