

# Housing Conservation Coordinators

Live green by recycling at home



7th Annual West Side Tenants' Conference

## Tenants' conference to educate and mobilize

- The Free Annual Conference will be on November 5th, 2011.
- 15 workshops on issues such as new rent laws & tenants' rights.
- Learn how to get involved to fight for affordable housing.

## It's time to change your batteries at home!



Don't forget that smoke and carbon monoxide detector batteries must be changed twice a year. change the batteries in your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors.

When you set your clocks back on November 6th, you should also This could save your life - don't play with the safety of your family.



## Recycle your CFL at HCC!

Thanks to HCC's recycling program, tenants can drop off old compact fluorescent bulbs at our office, 777 Tenth Avenue.



### Survey

## Seniors Wanted!



Community Survey to be conducted for residents 60 years of age and older living in the Clinton/Hell's Kitchen and Chelsea Neighborhoods.

(continued on Page 3).

### Weatherization

"We saved \$20 per month in our energy bill"



Omar Garcia, a tenant from Manhattan Avenue and 107th Street, is a witness on how the HCC's Weatherization Assistance Program is making a strong impact in our community and helping him to reduce his utility bill. To see Garcia's complete video testimony, please visit our website: [hcc-nyc.org/weather](http://hcc-nyc.org/weather)

7th Annual West Side Tenants Conference

# Fighting for your tenant rights



*At last year's conference, HCC rallied tenants, while at the same time offered practical advice to those having problems with their landlords.*

**Nov.**  
**5th**

Does your apartment need repairs? Are you confused about the new rent laws? Have you been wondering what benefits you're eligible for? Do you need to get rid of bed bugs? Are you tired of being harassed by your landlord? Are you having trouble recertifying your apartment? Do you want to strengthen your tenants' association?

If you answered yes to any of these questions or have any other housing related questions, then we have the perfect opportunity for you.

Housing Conservation Coordinators is proud to invite you to our 7th Annual West Side Tenants' conference.

Join us this year for New York City's biggest housing conference on

Saturday, November 5th at 9:00AM at Fordham Law School.

We will provide professional information, translation, free breakfast and snacks. All you have to bring is yourselves, your friends and your questions. Please don't hesitate to call Jose Melendrez at 212-541-5996 for more info. See you on Nov. 5th! ■

## Keep Helping Us Build a Strong Community

Every contribution keeps our program growing stronger. Please visit our new on-line donation page at [www.hcc-nyc.org/aboutus/donate.htm](http://www.hcc-nyc.org/aboutus/donate.htm). All donations are tax deductible to the full extent of the law. We truly appreciate the generosity of our supporters. ■



## Find safety and help: Domestic Violence hotline



Physical or verbal abuse can end in serious consequences if you don't seek out help. While it may be difficult to talk about it, we are here to help you. Stop by during offi-

ce intake hours at 777 Tenth Avenue.

All meetings and counseling sessions with HCC's Intake Coordinator, Monica Morante, are private and confidential.

To report domestic violence, including elder abuse, call the Safe Horizon Domestic Violence Hotline 24 hours a day, 7 days a week: (800) 621-HOPE (800-621-4673). ■

■ Award

## Recognition for fighting for affordable housing



Longtime HCC Tenant Organizer Bob Kalin will be receiving the 2011 Luis Acre Success Award from the Neighborhood Preservation Coalition of NYS on October 27th.

The award honors the memory of Luis Acre who was a tireless advocate for the rights of low-income families in his neighborhood of Manhattan Valley.

Bob was chosen for his dedication to fighting for tenants to stay in their homes, his passion for affordable housing and social justice and the positive influence he has had over a generation of organizers.

According to HCC's Director of Organizing Jackie Del Valle, who submitted the application for the award, "It's impossible to walk down the street with Bob without people stopping to say hello and thanking him. Bob will 'turn over every stone' in pursuit of helping a tenant, often leaving the tenant feeling empowered, as well as safe in her or his home." ■

# Senior Citizens Wanted for Survey!



A survey concerning quality of life issues for people 60 years of age and older living in zip code areas 10001, 10011, 10018, 10019 & 10036 is about to be conducted in partnership with a coalition of community organizations and Community Board 4.

The survey will be conducted from mid-October through December, and will seek information on demographics, living arrange-

ments, health, and community concerns. Some of the questions on the survey are specifically for performing arts community members because so many live in these neighborhoods.

With the number of people over 55 doubling in the next 20 years, this survey will focus on these neighborhoods to better understand the changing needs of older New Yorkers.

This survey is being con-

ducted in partnership with Manhattan Plaza's Rodney Kirk Center, The Visiting Nurse Service of New York, The Actors Fund and Manhattan Community Board 4.

The Seniors Community Survey Advisory Committee is comprised of over 40 local health, social service & housing organizations, entertainment unions, political representatives and the New York City Department for the Aging.

The findings will help provide a better understanding of needs, identify gaps in services and help community leaders organize and advocate for resources and services for seniors in the community.

Visit [www.nyc.gov/mcb4](http://www.nyc.gov/mcb4) for more information on the survey, scheduled to go live in mid-October. Questions? Contact the Survey Team at 212.221.7301, ext. 277 or [jrosch@actorsfund.org](mailto:jrosch@actorsfund.org). ■

## Heat and Hot Water Season



Building owners are obligated by law to provide heat and hot water to all tenants between October 1st and May 31st. This is what you need to know during the cold season.

■ Between the hours of 6:00 AM and 10:00 PM, if the outside temperature falls below 55 degrees, the inside temperature of your apartment is required to be at least 68 degrees Fahrenheit.

■ Between the hours of 10:00 PM and 6:00 AM, if the temperature outside falls below 40 degrees, the

inside temperature of your apartment is required to be at least 55 degrees Fahrenheit.

If there is a problem with the heat inside your building, keep a log of the daily temperatures outside and inside, and notify your landlord of the problem. It is best to provide additional notification in writing.

If that doesn't work, file a complaint with HPD by calling 311 and schedule an inspection by a city official. You can also request HCC's assistance by coming in during our intake hours. ■

## Problems with your Con Edison bill?



If you have problems concerning your Con Edison bills, please visit us at 777 Tenth Avenue during intake hours. (See schedule on page 4). ■

## HCC's Announcements

### Every Monday

<b>Oct.</b> 24 31	<b>Free legal assistance for tenants</b> <i>From 4:00pm - 6:30pm</i>
<b>Nov.</b> 7 14 21 28	If you have housing problems, visit us during our intake hours. To qualify you must live between 34th & 72nd Streets, from 8th to 12th Avenues and meet our income guidelines (See chart below). Please bring all relevant documents (Leases, rent bills, Con Edison bills and proof of income).
<b>Dec.</b> 5 12 19	<i>For more information, please visit us at 777 Tenth Avenue, at 52nd Street.</i>

### Tuesdays

<b>Oct.</b> 25	<b>Free legal immigration services</b> <i>From 5:00pm - 7:40pm</i>
<b>Nov.</b> 8 22	We provide free legal information and possible representation. Appointments are required. You must live on the West Side of Manhattan between Canal Street and 110th Streets and be income eligible for our services. Spanish translation is provided. Please bring all relevant documents. Call us (212) 541-5996.
<b>Dec.</b> 13 20	

### Every Thursday

<b>Oct.</b> 20 27	<b>Free legal assistance for tenants</b> <i>From 10:00am - 12:30pm</i>												
<b>Nov.</b> 3 10 17 24	To qualify, you must live between 34th and 72nd Streets, from 8th to 12th Avenues and meet our income guidelines.												
	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Household Size</th> <th>Total Household Income Limit</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>1</td> <td>\$38,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>\$41,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>3</td> <td>\$44,000</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td> <td>\$47,500</td> </tr> <tr> <td>5</td> <td>\$51,000</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Household Size	Total Household Income Limit	1	\$38,000	2	\$41,500	3	\$44,000	4	\$47,500	5	\$51,000
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## Free legal clinic

HCC offers a free legal clinic every Monday night (except on holidays) from at 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm. To attend, clients must call in advance to determine eligibility and reserve a spot. Those given a confirmed appointment will be seen on a first-come, first-serve basis. Please note: the Legal Clinic is limited to 8 people. Call HCC at (212) 541-5996 for further information.

Designed and created by: Outreach Department  
Questions: jmelendrez@hcc-nyc.org



### A community organizer in the making

Stephanie Barreto is the newest member of the HCC/WSNA team, who will be working alongside members to further its various ongoing campaigns. She comes as an apprentice from the Center for Neighborhood Leadership, which is the community organizing recruitment, training and support center founded by the Association for Neighborhood and Housing Development (ANHD).

The program lasts ten months during which Stephanie will be full-time at HCC/WSNA from Monday through Thursday. As part of her training, she will attend a weekly seminar session on Fridays, run by an experienced organizer.

She is a recent graduate from Barnard College, majoring in Sociology and Urban Studies during her time there. Stephanie is also a native New Yorker, hailing from Jackson Heights, Queens. She is very excited about starting her cycle with HCC/WSNA and no doubt will be a positive contribution to the community.

### Dangerously high rent!

*Studio apt. \$2,400  
Per month on the West Side  
650 square feet*



**Enough is enough!  
Fight for  
affordable housing...  
...before it is too late!**

*Become a member of WSNA today!  
500 West 52nd Street, #2E - 212-956-2573  
visit us at [www.westsidenyc.org](http://www.westsidenyc.org)*

