

# **BOARD BRIEFING**

*An update from the Century Tower Board of Directors  
(February 2019)*

**Internet upgrade.** A team from Spectrum began installation of equipment for improved internet service on January 22. Starting work on the first floor and then moved upward, they have reached the 31<sup>st</sup> floor.

Spectrum staff will be returning to Century Tower in April to complete the installations for apartments they were unable to enter during these past weeks.

Even if the new equipment has been installed in your apartment, Spectrum will not be activating the faster internet speed until the installation project has been completed for the entire building.

**Garage remediation.** An engineering firm is completing a report of needed remediation work in the garage and how that work should be prioritized. In the meantime, metal plates are being ordered to cover the worst of the uneven surfaces on garage levels B and C.

**Elevator information.** If you find yourself in the unenviable position of being stuck in one of the elevators, you can contact the concierge desk by pushing the button in the elevator that has a telephone symbol next to it. The button is labeled “Push to Talk” and is located to the left of the “Lobby” button.

To improve elevator reliability, a cable that supplies power transmission to elevator car #3 has been replaced. The old cable had

been responsible for past shutdowns of that elevator.

**New union contract.** Negotiations with representatives of the labor union representing employees of Century Tower (Service Employees International Union, Local 32BJ) concluded with our entering into a four-year collective bargaining agreement, effective 2019 through 2022. The agreement calls for modest annual wage increases, plus increased employer contributions for health insurance and pension benefits. In addition, employees receive a new benefit: legal assistance through the union’s Legal Services Fund.

**For your viewing pleasure.** Century Tower’s Artist of the Month exhibit is inside the Social Room. This month, see portraits in pastels by Dolores Hirsch.

**Pedestrian safety.** After another Century Tower shareholder, Dr. Jaime Giraldo, was seriously injured in November from being hit by a car while crossing Palisade Avenue by Angioletti Place, Lois Brenner and Debbie Pico called on their friends on the Fort Lee Council to arrange a meeting with town officials. That produced a recent meeting with Mayor Mark Sokolich and Police Chief Keith Bendul, along with Councilpersons Ila Kafosky, and Harvey Sohmer. Representatives of the Century Tower Board of Directors were also invited to attend, and Jerry Kray and Neil Pariser

reported back to Board on these constructive results:

- Repainting of the pedestrian crosswalk lines.
- More frequent police presence in the area.
- An electronic sign at the corner cautioning drivers to yield to pedestrians.

In addition, Fort Lee officials are

- Asking the State Department of Transportation, which has jurisdiction over Palisade Avenue, to move the stop line for cars further back from the pedestrian crosswalk.
- Making certain the stop sign at the corner of Old Palisade and Parker Avenues has operating flashing lights.
- Investigating the installation of additional street lighting on Parker Avenue between Angioletti Place and Main Street.

We hope to have a follow-up meeting with Fort Lee officials in the future. Most importantly, we wish Jaime a complete recovery as we seek improved pedestrian safety in our neighborhood.

### **Green Committee tip of the month.**

*Increase recycling; reduce carbon footprint*

For some of us, recycling is part of the everyday routine. But the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) reports that less than 30% of recyclable items are actually being recycled. As a society, we can do better. As individuals, that means stepping up our recycling efforts.

Review the list of recyclable items posted in the compactor rooms. Also recycle overlooked items, such as used appliances and electronics. Recognize what is not recyclable, like disposable coffee cups, take-out food containers with food scraps clinging to them, and greasy pizza boxes.

Even small-scale individual efforts can have a positive impact on the environment, particularly when multiplied by many individuals.

### ***From the Social Committee***

*Thursday, February 21, at 7:00 p.m. – Foreign film screening:*

*“Hiroshima Mon Amor”*

*(In this 1959 movie, a French woman and a Japanese man have an affair while she is in Japan making a film about peace and the impact of the atomic bomb on Hiroshima.)*

Minutes of the Open Board Meetings are posted on the bulletin board near the mailboxes and are available in the Management Office.