



THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five
Vikki Barbero, Chair

January 2011

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COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends –

We all know people who are down on the Department of Transportation. You might be one of them – maybe you don't like the new pedestrian plazas and traffic patterns, or all the new bike lanes that make our streets look and feel differently, or the time it takes to get anywhere on a bus. Change, indeed, is difficult and messy...and not perfect.

But this District Manager knows of no other city agency that works as collaboratively on new projects and is as committed to that process. For instance, this coming Monday, at our Transportation and Environment Committee, we will have our second presentation and workshop on possible designs for the new Pershing Square West pedestrian plaza, to be located directly south of Grand Central Station. DOT and DDC (the Department of Design and Construction) are seeking your input, your concerns, your ideas.

So, if you care about urban design or live near GCS or simply are interested in actively participating in the design of a new plaza in the heart of Manhattan, join us next Monday at 6pm here at our Board Office. You might just help us all see things in a different light.

Sincerely,
Wally Rubin
District Manager

News and Events

The Party's Not Over - **Union Square** is open for business during the dark doldrums of winter. If the post-holiday blahs are settling in, the best medicine is to get out and about – yes, even when the weather is in the 20's. **Union Square Partnership** has compiled a **Winter Coupon Book**, touting special offers from over two dozen restaurants and stores in the Union Square area. Charming little deals such as a complimentary cocktail with appetizers at **Blue Water Grill**, discounted yoga classes at **TaoYoga**, a percentage off wines at **USQ Wine & Spirits** – and more! You can pick up the coupon books at participating retailers in the area, and you can print various coupons yourself by visiting the **Union Square Partnership website**. Don't let the after-winter blues get you down – go get a free drink!



Let It Snow, Let It . . . Aw, Forget It-

Ah, snow. When the fluffy white stuff covers the ground NYC seems like a winter wonderland. And clean! Alas, after the first 5 minutes though, reality sets in. In the wake of the recent blizzard, the city is taking steps to ensure that important information is readily available regarding city services and advisories. **NYC Snow Update** is a page on the **NYC.gov** website that connects people to the information they need to know when a storm is on its way or already in town. On the **NYC Snow Update** page you can find links to real-time MTA info, the status of Sanitation services, and other vital tidbits. You can even post a comment - keep it civil! Don't be blinded by the snow – visit **NYC Snow Update** and maintain the illusion of NYC as a winter wonderland!



You Gotta Have Heart! –

And with heart comes a responsibility to engage. (There's a life lesson there somewhere.) From February 10th through the 20th, New Yorkers are invited to come to **Duffy Square** and hold up the heart of the city – that is, join 5 other people and hold up "**Lighted Heart**," a giant reflective heart in celebration of the holiday of love, **Valentine's Day**. The heart – a light-weight construction with an open weave fabric that reflects light – will be held aloft by volunteers for 30 minutes a pop throughout the ten day period. The structure isn't heavy (no heart should be!), so you don't need a great deal of strength. Just desire. Bring a friend or go solo and meet your fellow New Yorkers, but join in this unique offering. For more information about the event and being part of it, visit the **Times Square Alliance** website. Fun!



It's Baaaaaack – It's the city event that just won't go away. And why would we want it to?!

Restaurant Week is a city-wide food-fantasia, with some of NYC's top restaurants offering up prix fixe menu's that will make your tummy tingle. From January 24th through February 6th, you can dine for \$24.07 for lunch (an odd little amount) and \$35 for dinner at more than 300 participating restaurants all around town. If you've walked by that place that looks so inviting, and glanced at their menu that sounds so yummy, now is the time to make a reservation and satisfy your gastronomic curiosity. For a list of participating establishments, visit the [Restaurant Week link on NYC.gov](#).



It's Not Just A Pedestrian Plaza - Remember, Broadway has shows, too! Ah yes, **The Great White (*Expensive*) Way**. Unfortunately, ticket prices just keep climbing, and it may seem like a night at the theatre costs more than the mortgage. But have no fear you tormented toe-tappers, from January 24th through February 10th you can get **2-for-1 tickets** to some of **Broadway's** hottest productions! Shows like **The Addams Family**, **Billy Elliott** and **The Importance of Being Earnest** (quite fun!) are on offer and just waiting to be seen. So extend that holiday feeling just a little longer and take in a show. For a list of shows and to book tickets visit [NYCgo.com/getmorenyc/broadway](#)

The Incredible Edible Egg – The humble little egg was much maligned several years back as a stealth carrier of artery clogging cholesterol and was banished to the Isle of Misfit Foods. But admit it, nothing says weekend brunch like a plate of eggs – fried, poached, scrambled or soft-boiled. But where does nature's perfect food fit in your life? Never really thought about it, did you? Well, think about it! The Egg: nutrient dense, a wallop of high-quality protein, and only 70 calories. If you'd like to reach across the aisle and make friends with the egg again, then come to NYC Parks and Recreation's new **Daytime Health Series**, an open discussion series on various health topics. The Egg takes center stage on **Friday, January 21 at 11:30am at the Asser Levy Recreation Center** located on East 23rd and FDR Drive. And, if all this talk of eggs has enticed your taste buds, [click here for some eggcellent recipes](#).



Precinct Community Council Meetings

Each month local Police Precincts hold **Community Council Meetings** where community members can voice their concerns on local issues affecting their quality of life. Council meetings are open to all residents of the precinct. The four precincts located in **Community Board Five**, and their respective Council meeting times are:



- **10th Precinct** - Last Wednesday of each month at 7:30pm, 119 9th Avenue, Hudson Guild Senior Center.
Contact: Det. Mike Petrillo at 212-741-8226
- **13th Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm, 230 East 21st St.
Contact: P.O. Mike Hnatko at 212-477-7427
- **Midtown North Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm, 427 West 47th St.
Contact: Det. Stephen Giaco at 212-767-8447
- **Midtown South Precinct** - Every 3rd Thursday at 7pm at the Hotel New Yorker, 8th Avenue and 34th St.
Contact: Det. Adam D'Amico; Det. Joe Bunster at 212-239-9846

Liquor License Applicants

[Click here](#) to be taken to the CB5 website for information on Liquor License applicants.

If you have any questions regarding this list, please call the office or email office@cb5.org.

Contact Community Board Five

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We're on the Web!
www.cb5.org

If your organization would like to publicize an event in **The Manhattan Midtown**, email your request to: office@cb5.org. To be considered for publication events must be free and open to the public.

