

THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five
Vikki Barbero, Chair

December 2009

Inside:

[Welcome](#)

www.cb5.org

[Schedule and Agendas](#)

[News and Events](#)

[Precinct Community
Councils](#)

[Liquor License Applicants](#)

[Contact Us](#)

COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends –

December is, as everyone knows, THE shopping season, and as CB5 represents New York's main business district, we want to encourage everyone to get out from behind the computer, slap on some clothes, and see what our great shops and stores have to offer. Not to mention, love might be around any corner – and you won't find that on Amazon!

While you're making your list and checking it twice, check out our District's growing array of holiday shops, including the **Holiday Shops at Bryant Park**, the **Union Square Park Holiday Market**, the **Columbus Circle Holiday Fair**, the **Grand Central Terminal Holiday Fair** and the **Holiday Gift Shops at St. Bartholomew's Park Avenue**. You can get all your shopping done and never have to leave CB5! Now, that's priceless. For more details about these holiday shops **please click [here](#)**.

Happy Thanksgiving and a very merry holiday season to all, from all of us at Community Board Five!

Sincerely,
Wally Rubin
District Manager

News and Events



21st Annual New York Cares

COAT DRIVE

Photo by Craig Cutler

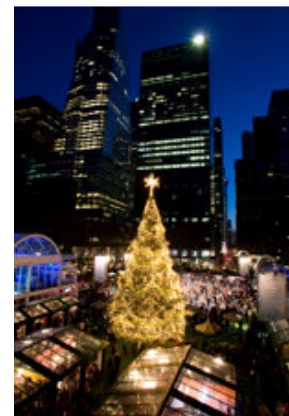
DECEMBER 1 - 31, 2009

Such A Great Need - Thousands of New Yorkers each year are forced to make a choice between buying a winter coat and putting food on the table. And not all of them are homeless. Each year **New York Cares** organizes a winter coat drive, collecting nearly 70,000 gently used winter coats each December to distribute to thousands of men, women, and children who would otherwise be cold. If you haven't worn that old coat for two years, why not recycle it in a grand way by giving it to someone in need? There are numerous donation sites right here in Midtown: *Grand Central*, *Penn Station* and *Port Authority* will be accepting coats during morning rush-hours from 7:30a until 9:30a. In addition, any police precinct will accept donations, as well. **Click here for a list of those precincts that are in CB5.** And, just to add to the joy of giving, you can take any gently used coat to **The Pond at Bryant Park**- give a coat, take a spin on the ice! Times are tough for many right now in this country, but you can make a huge difference in someone's life right here in NYC with such a small gesture. To find out more donations sites or to host your own coat drive, visit www.newyorkcares.org

Don't Let The Flu Take You Down - Germs are a given; no matter how clean your hands are, there are germs somewhere. Not that there's anything wrong with that! But how you deal with those germs makes a big difference in how those germs deal with you. There has been a lot of confusion and anxiety regarding the **H1N1 virus** lately, but now that we're solidly into the cold and flu season, it's important that you do your homework and find out what you can about this microscopic menace. NYC has set up an **Influenza Information Page** on their website (www.nyc.gov) that has general information on the regular seasonal flu as well as **H1N1**, and resources to find vaccinations and treatment for both strands of flu. Find out who needs one, who shouldn't get one, and *where* in Midtown you can get one if you choose to. Don't be taken down by something you can't even see! Check out the site and prepare for battle by visiting www.nyc.gov/flu



Blow Winds And Crack Your Cheeks! - Oh Winter. You're cold, you can be bitter, and sometimes you're downright brutal. But this is **New York City** gosh darn it and we'll find a way to have fun despite what you throw at us! **Bryant Park** is all about holiday happiness this season with the annual **Holiday Shops** and **The Pond** skating rink. And the best part is that **The Pond** is absolutely free! This public rink is open every day, rents skates and offers such amenities as skate sharpening, lockers and bag check. In addition, **The Holiday Shops** are open and ready for gift-getting. Over 100 boutiques with artisan and designer wares from around the world will set up shop until January 6th. For more information on both The Pond and The Holiday Shops you can visit the [Bryant Park website](http://www.bryantpark.com).



Strike Up The Band - For 83 years, **Macy's** has heralded in the holiday season with hoopla and happiness at their annual **Thanksgiving Day Parade!** The formal festivities on *Thursday, November 26th* start at 9am at 77th and Central Park West, marches south and continues on **a NEW route** right through Midtown: this year the parade travels down 7th Avenue to 42nd Street, then east to 6th Avenue and south



again to 34th Street and the reviewing stand. Got all that? Don't fret because it's all on the **Parade website**, along with **FAQ's** for making the day a viewing joy – the best places to see, where to stay and what's nearby to eat. Even before you watch the parade you can partake in the fun by watching the *balloon inflation* the night before. Those great behemoths of buoyancy take flight along Central Park West between 77th and 81st Streets between the hours of 3p and 10p. Say hi to Snoopy!

Holiday Dressing Of A Different Kind –

There's the turkey, the Christmas tree and the windows! One of the wonderful holiday traditions in NYC is the many department store windows in the Midtown area, dressed and decorated in all manner of green, red and gold. Millions of visitors each year make the trek to **Rockefeller Center** to take in the giant Christmas Tree on the Plaza and warm their hands with roasted chestnuts. But not too far from there are some of



the world's finest department stores with some of the world's most fabulous holiday window decorations – scenes of transcendence that will make you want to crawl inside and escape into another reality. Now that your interest is peaked, you can map out your own 'window trail' and start your own yearly tradition.

Click here for a map of the windows in the area.

It's All Over But The Shouting – Are you

kidding?! Now is the time to shout the loudest!! Did you have a hard time voting earlier this month? Did your polling location suddenly move from where you thought it would be? Were things organized and helpful at the polling site once you got there? Election Day may be



gone for the time being, but there's another one waiting in the wings. How will it be different? **The NYC Voter Assistance Commission** will be holding a public hearing on the state of Election 2009, focusing on election day experiences and how to improve voter participation. The hearing will be held in the City Council Chambers at City Hall (how appropriate) on Tuesday, December 15, from 6p to 7p. To RSVP call 212.788.8384 or e-mail byusuf@cityhall.nyc.gov Be heard!

How To Make Sense Of It All – It seems like every time you turn around some new crisis is thrown at you. The holiday season may be a time for looking at the bright side of things, but there is also a dark side to which attention must be paid. *The New School Center for New York City Affairs* is hosting the lecture **Markets, State and Democracy: Lessons from the Economic Crisis**. The



discussion will center on the recent history of market-based democracies, and ponder the question of how/should we re-conceptualize the balance of state, market and democracy? The lecture takes place on Thursday, December 3, 2009 from 6p to 7:30p at the Tishman Auditorium of The New School, 66 West 12th St., between 5th and 6th Avenues. Admission is free but RSVP is required. Call 212.229.5418 or e-mail centernyc@newschool.edu



Parking Calendar

NYC Parking Regulations – There are many legally recognized holidays on which parking regulations are suspended. For the month of December, parking regulations are officially suspended on the following days:



Immaculate Conception – Tuesday, December 8
Christmas Day – Friday, December 25

Changes occur often, so call 311 for daily updates. For more information on Parking Regulations, visit the [DOT Parking Calendar](http://www.nyc.gov) at www.nyc.gov.

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 or Det. Diane Menig 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 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

Community Board Five
450 Seventh Avenue
Suite 2109
New York, NY 10123
Phone: 212-465-0907
Fax: 212-465-1628
E-mail: office@cb5.org
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.

