

# THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five  
October 2008

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## COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends –

I know I may be preaching to the converted, if you are among those reading this civic-minded newsletter, but I can't send this October newsletter out without a reminder that October 10<sup>th</sup> is the last day you can register to vote in NYC, if you wish to vote in this year's Presidential election. In the waning days before 10/10, don't be embarrassed to ask everyone you come in contact with if they are registered.

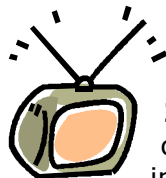
If the last eight years has taught us anything, it is that every vote counts and that who we choose as President impacts our lives in unimaginable ways. Don't put it off, register to vote and encourage others to do so, as well. Visit the [Board of Elections](#) website for information and registration today.

Sincerely,  
Wally Rubin  
District Manager

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## Community News and Events

**Everybody's Doing It- Digital Transition** is an FCC-mandated shift from analog to digital transmission for broadcasters like NBC, FOX and CBS throughout the United States, **set to take place on February 17, 2009**. That's when full power broadcast stations will cease transmitting signals in analog and instead transmit in digital format. Consumers *without* cable or satellite will lose their TV reception. Those with just "rabbit ears" will find they won't work and should take steps now to ensure continued viewing. A special piece of equipment from an electronics retailer will be necessary, if your TV doesn't already have one installed, and through a federally supported discount program, consumers may obtain up to two \$40 coupons toward the purchase of two analog-to-digital tuners. Please visit the federal government's site, [www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov). To learn more and prepare now, visit [www.dtvtransition.org](http://www.dtvtransition.org).



### **I Got The Music In Me! - Turtle Bay Music School** is



recruiting motivated 4<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grade students for the **Saturday Music Project**, an initiative that provides two years of music education **free of charge** to students with little or no access to arts instruction. Open to youths from across the five boroughs, the Project offers a multi-tiered curriculum that incorporates instrumental group lessons, world music appreciation, family programs and cultural education. Join them for an *Open House* on Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> from 10a-12p at **Turtle Bay Music School** (244 East 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, New York, NY 10022). For more information, please call 212-753-8811 ext. 17, email [grace@tbms.org](mailto:grace@tbms.org). Or visit their website at [www.tbms.org](http://www.tbms.org). 

### **Take A Peek Behind The Runway The Fashion Institute of Technology** is more than just a school; it's a destination for those who love fashion. Numerous public programs

are held regularly and are free to all who wish to attend. *Fashion Culture*

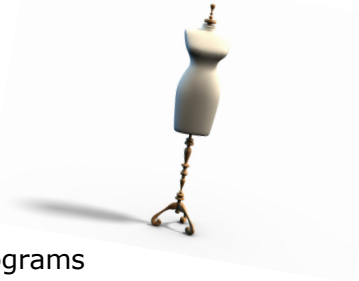
*Programs* are organized by **The**

**Museum at FIT** to provide insightful and intriguing perspectives on the culture of fashion. Programs include

film screenings in conjunction with current exhibits, lectures and book signings, and tours of FIT collections. Programs

are FREE, unless otherwise indicated and reservations are required for all events, as space is limited. For information on

exhibits and programs, visit the **FIT Museum** website at [www.fitnyc.edu](http://www.fitnyc.edu). To RSVP for an event, contact 212 217.4585 or [museuminfo@fitnyc.edu](mailto:museuminfo@fitnyc.edu). **The Museum at FIT** is located on the southwest corner of Seventh Avenue at 27th Street.



### **With A Little Help From My Friends - New York Cares,**

NYC's clearinghouse for all things volunteer, will be holding a



*Volunteer Expo* where those interested in donating their time to helping their fellow New Yorkers can meet

**New York Cares** staff and find out about the

hundreds of flexible, meaningful volunteer projects offered each month. The projects range from serving

meals to the homeless, revitalizing schools with a little paint, cleaning up community gardens, to playing bingo with seniors who need a little companionship - to name just a few. In all, there are more than 900 projects to choose from. So tap your altruistic side and find out what's calling to your higher self at the **New York**

**Cares Volunteer Expo**, Friday, October 10<sup>th</sup>, from 1pm until 3:30pm at the Mid-Manhattan Library, 455 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, at 40<sup>th</sup> street. For more information, visit [www.nycares.org](http://www.nycares.org)

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City Agency Announcements



**It's Time To Go Shopping!** - **Shop for Public Schools 2008** runs from October 1 through October 8. During this period, you can shop at some of New York City's greatest stores, and a portion of your purchase will be donated to **The Fund for Public Schools**.

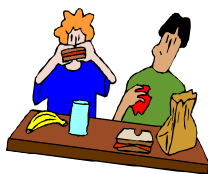
That means the more you shop, the more merchants will contribute to public school libraries. Stores will also be hosting special events throughout the week that you won't want to miss. Visit our brand-new [Shop for Public Schools website](#) for the most up-to-date listings of participating retailers, store locations, events, and more. And from October 1 to October 8, remember to shop 'till you drop!

**Wanna Play Ball, Scarecrow?!** - As the weather turns and the leaves begin to fall, scary shadows start to spring up, ushering in autumn in NY. What better way to celebrate the turn of seasons than with a *Scarecrow Contest?!* Being held at Bethesda Fountain in Central Park on Saturday, October 25, the NYC Parks Department will be hosting their **Pumpkin Festival Scarecrow Competition**. This is an opportunity for elementary and middle school students to express their spooky creativity and enjoy the fresh autumn air.



For further information and entry guidelines, [click here](#) or visit the Parks Department website at [www.nycgovparks.org](http://www.nycgovparks.org)

**Keep Your Eye Open** - Callers to 911 and 311 are now able to send photos or video to assist in crime fighting and report quality of life complaints. Those contacting 911 in an emergency can send photos or video from a cell phone or computer to the NYPD's *Real Time Crime Center*, where relevant images may be used to assist in crime fighting or in responding to other emergencies. The public will also be able to send pictures and videos from computers and web-enabled cell phones and PDAs to accompany certain 311 quality of life complaints. So now, not only can you tell the City what's bothering you, you can *show* them, too! For more information and the forms necessary to upload images, visit [www.nyc.gov/misc](http://www.nyc.gov/misc) and follow the links.



**If It's Friday, It Must Be Pizza** - Every student needs good nutrition to stay focused and be in top form to learn. Did you know that parents of New York City school students can now apply for school meals online? They can go to **ACCESS NYC**, New York City's online public screening tool, and apply electronically for free or reduced-price school meals for their children. The **ACCESS NYC** website at [www.nyc.gov/accessnyc](http://www.nyc.gov/accessnyc) walks parents through simple questions to complete and submit the *School Meals Online Application*. Please note that the paper process has not changed. Families that would like to use the paper application should complete the form and submit it to their child's school.

**To Whom Do I Turn?** - It seems as though NYC is just a tangle of bureaucratic tentacles all tied up in knots. Just finding out who to talk to can feel like climbing a mountain. 311 is a great resource but not always accurate. And really, are New Yorkers just supposed to *know* who handles things like hanging baskets on lamp posts?! That's why the Public Advocate's Office has established the **Public Advocate's Corner**, a blog filled with information and insights on the issues facing New Yorkers. In an effort to remove barriers to accessing city services, and provide increased transparency and accountability in city government, this blog has been created to help New Yorkers connect with the Office of the Public Advocate and give them more access to the information they need to navigate city services. And you can even voice your opinion on the issues at hand. **Public Advocate's Corner** can be found at [www.publicadvocatescorner.com](http://www.publicadvocatescorner.com)



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## Cultural Calendar

There's so much culture in Midtown it's hard to keep track. Below are some current and recent events and openings.

- o **Upcoming Openings**

**Billy Elliot** – *Imperial Theatre*

Previews: October 1

Opens: October 13

**American Buffalo** – *Belasco Theatre*

Previews: October 31

Opens: November 17

Closes: April 19

**Dividing the Estate** – *Booth Theatre*

Previews: October 23

Opens: November 20

Closes: January 4

**White Christmas** – *Marriott Marquis*

Previews: November 14

Opens: November 23

Closes: January 4

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



**Thursday, 10/9 – Yom Kippur**  
**Monday, 10/13 – Columbus Day**  
**Tuesday/Wednesday, 10/14 & 15 – Succoth**  
**Tuesday, 10/21 – Shemini Atzereth**  
**Wednesday, 10/22 – Simchas Torah**  
**Tuesday, 10/28 – Diwali**

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

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## 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. Contact: Det. Mike Petrillo at 212-741-8226
- **13th Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30pm. Contact: P.O. Mike Hnatko at 212-477-7427
- **Midtown North Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Contact: Det. Stephen Giaco or Det. Diane Menig at 212-767-8447
- **Midtown South Precinct** - Every 3rd Thursday at 7pm. Contact: Det. Adam D'Amico at 212-239-9846

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## 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](mailto:office@cb5.org).

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## 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](mailto:office@cb5.org)**  
**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.cb5.org](http://www.cb5.org)**

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