



# THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five  
February 2009

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## COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends –

When I found a bed bug in my apartment last week, little did I know what a difficult, enervating and growing problem this is becoming for our city and too many of its citizens. **Council Member Gale Brewer** has taken an active role in proposing legislation to deal with this issue, but it is very important that everyone become more sensitized and knowledgeable as this problem continues to fester. The article below has useful information on this issue, and you can click this link to read a recent editorial on this problem in **The New York Times**.

On a cheerier note, we wish everyone, whether single or coupled, a very Happy Valentine's Day and a President's Day we can happily celebrate again this year.

Sincerely,  
Wally Rubin  
District Manager

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## Community News and Events

**Who Doesn't Love To Count?!** – It's almost Census time! Every 10 years, the U.S. government must count the population of the nation. The results help determine representation in government, as well as how federal funds are spent on things like roads, parks, housing, schools, and public safety. And every 10 years, thousands of workers are needed to assist in the monumental task –to update address lists and conduct interviews with



community residents. After all, the U.S. has an estimated population of 305 million people! The pay is good, the hours are flexible, and you'll be making an important contribution to your community. For more information about temporary Census jobs, visit the **U.S. Census website**.

**Blow Winds And Crack Your Cheeks** - As the economic winds blow colder, small businesses face complex challenges. And with resources becoming more scarce, weathering the storm becomes more difficult. Meeting these challenges and planning for the future is the focus of a **free Small Business Assistance Forum and Breakfast - Roll with the Punches**, being sponsored by the Flatiron 23<sup>rd</sup> Street Partnership. Taking place on Wednesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> from 8am until 10am, this forum will consist of panel discussions and breakout sessions focused on information and ideas for staying afloat and making it through. To *RSVP by 2/20/09* please send an e-mail to [events@flatironbid.org](mailto:events@flatironbid.org) or call 212.741.2323. For location information and to view the invitation on-line, [click here](#).



**Fashion To The Rescue** - Maybe it's time to go back to school! While it's important to stay healthy and fit, a gym membership is often not so healthy for your budget. Let fashion save the day! The **Fashion Institute of Technology** has many fitness classes on their schedule that are open to the public, not just to students, and are relatively inexpensive. Everything from Afro-Caribbean dance to yoga, golf and kung fu are offered throughout the semester for a fraction of the cost of private facilities. For more information and a schedule of classes, visit the [FIT website](#).



**Be Curious** - Though it has nothing to do with our district, we think it's worth a peak. [Woot.com](#) - they sell one thing each day and one thing only at a greatly reduced price. And once it's gone, it's gone. Who knows what you might find.

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## City Agency Announcements

**Tempus Fugit** - The wind-chill may still be down in the teens but it's never too early to start talking beaches! The **NYC Parks Department** is seeking applicants to its *Municipal Lifeguard Training Program*. Because of last year's recruitment effort, more pools were able to be fully staffed and opened, cooling the toes of many New Yorkers. Lifeguards in training undergo extensive preparation in proper swimming form and rescue technique, and are then sent to staff one of the 54 outdoor pools and 7 beaches open during the summer. Participants must be at least 16 years of age at time of application. The entry test for applicants is being offered in all five boroughs and information of available sites can be found at [www.nyc.gov/parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks)



**What To Do? What To Do?** - With so much to do, see and eat in NYC, it's hard to know what's happening on any given day. NYC wants to make it a little easier for tourists and residents alike to find the perfect thing to do at any time of the year. Located at 810 Seventh Avenue between 52nd and 53rd is a new **Interactive Multimedia Information Center**. This state-of-the-art center features digital,



interactive NYC maps and up-to-the-minute event and venue information on attractions throughout the five boroughs. Wall-mounted multi-lingual information kiosks, available in nine languages, offer information on how to navigate New York

City, complete with transportation tips. So whether you're visiting and need to get a handle on all that's available, or you live here and want to try something new, the information is right at your fingertips! Additional information on NYC events and happenings can be found at [www.nycgo.com](http://www.nycgo.com)

**A Fork In The Road** – When adversity strikes, it's sometimes necessary to look at things differently and open yourself up to new experiences, trying things you might not otherwise have tried. The

**Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS)** is offering numerous **Civil Service Examinations** on a continuous and

monthly basis. Such positions as *Traffic Enforcement Officer*, *Caseworker* and even *Assistant Gardener* are accepting applications for upcoming exams. To find out more about when and where the exams are offered, as well as deadlines for filing, visit the **DCAS** website at [www.nyc.gov/dcas](http://www.nyc.gov/dcas)



**A Case Of The Heebie Jeebies** - They're active at night and they feed on human blood. No, not vampires – though *they* may be a bit more welcome. **Bed Bugs!!!** As if sharing this beautiful city with rats and roaches isn't enough, New Yorkers must contend with yet another



nocturnal nuisance. Bed bugs are small insects that are about the size of an apple seed - big enough to be easily seen, but small enough to hide in the seams of furniture, or cracks in floors and walls. In most cases, people carry bed bugs into their homes unknowingly, in infested luggage, furniture, bedding, or clothing. Though they're annoying, they don't spread disease and aren't dangerous. If you've noticed itchy skin welts or seen small rusty-red crawly things on floors, walls or in the crevices of your mattress, it may be time to call in a professional. **City**



**Councilmember Gale Brewer** has put forward several pieces of legislation regarding this issue, from prohibiting the sale of reconditioned



mattresses, to the disposal of mattresses and furniture, and the establishment of training programs for exterminators and landlords. NYC isn't the only municipality waging war on these critters. Toronto has begun the **Toronto Bed Bug Project** to help combat the problem there. For information on what to look out for and how to get rid of them, visit NYC's **Department of Health** website or call 311.

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## Parking Calendar



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

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

**Lincoln's Birthday – Thursday, Feb. 12**  
**Washington's Birthday – Monday, Feb. 16**  
**Ash Wednesday – Wednesday, Feb. 25**

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, 119 9<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup> St.  
Contact: P.O. Mike Hnatko at 212-477-7427
- **Midtown North Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm, 427 West 47<sup>th</sup> 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, 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and 34<sup>th</sup> St.  
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.

