

THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five
September 2006

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COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends,

All good things must come to an end. So it is with summer. Hopefully, the summer months provided a well needed rest from the hustle of city life.

As the shadows start to grow long, **Community Board Five** swings into action once again, resolving to complaints, offering input into issues affecting the community, and acting as liaison between the City and its constituents.

As always, we encourage everyone to take an active part in your community by attending CB5 meetings and finding out about what's happening in your neighborhood. A full schedule of meetings can be found on our website at www.cb5.org/calendar.

Regards,
Gary Parker, District Manager

Community News and Events



The Churchill Center announces its *Reading Initiative* program for 2006. This is a 27 week **free** phonics instruction program for children in grades 1, 2, or 3. All instruction is provided by trained teachers to small groups of children whose families cannot afford private tutoring. The term begins October 27 and meets on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at **The Churchill School**, 301 East 29th St. Screenings begin in September. For application information, please call The Churchill Center at 212.722.0610 x3100.

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Make a Difference – The Prejudice Reduction Program of the **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP)** is an

award winning intergenerational project that deploys trained senior volunteers into New York City elementary school classrooms in an effort to reduce prejudice and build understanding and respect for human differences. One day a week, volunteers work with students in grades three through five in their classrooms, using games, group discussions, puppet shows and role playing to breakdown stereotypes and build children's pride in themselves. All volunteers are trained and introduced to the curriculum. New volunteers are matched with current volunteers who act as role models. For more information, contact **Janelle Poe, Project Coordinator at RSVP** at 212.614.5548 or visit their website at www.cssny.org



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Learn While You Chat! - The **New York Public Library** will be hosting a

Free English Conversation Program designed for speakers of other languages. Participants can talk with native English speakers about NYC, current events, or

any other topics that are of interest. The program is on a first come, first served basis for adults 16 years and older. The program takes place at the Donnell Library Center, located at 20 West 53rd St., on Tuesday evenings. For more information regarding registration and testing call 212.340.0918.

On Board! - Meeting the Staff of CB5



Luis Rodriguez

Luis Rodriguez is full of energy, a whirlwind of activity as he explains the many projects he's working on. A member of CB5 since April, Luis chose to join the Community Board because he felt the need to get more involved in our community. A corporate finance attorney in private practice, Luis is still concerned with small businesses in our big city because, "I'm a small business after all!"

Currently serving on our Public Safety/Quality of Life and Landmarks committees, Luis sees the changing landscape of Midtown as one of the ongoing challenges facing our Community Board, citing recent issues regarding the State Liquor Authority and the increasing real estate development which, he feels, threatens our city's landmarks. "It's a good thing to be able to sound off on these issues and influence things. The Community Board is a grass-roots arm of this city's political process."

Luis remembers being intimidated when he showed up at his first Board meeting - "I am used to working less publicly and in much smaller groups." He found, however, the members of CB5 to be "pleasant, professional and very concerned citizens." From the beginning, the Board members made him feel at home. "The Board Chair, the committee Chairs and longstanding members have all approached me and made me feel very welcome. And new members - my class - still look to one another for support."

Being new to the Board required learning much, but "it's all part of a process. There are lots of people willing to give input on how it's done well. It's not easy, and there is a lot of footwork, but I'm not going to give it a half-hearted effort." Work-load notwithstanding, Luis looks forward to his tenure with CB5. "It's worth doing and worth doing well. It should also be fun, and if it's not, then something's wrong!"

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City Agency Announcements

Planning Ahead – The Department of Health

has unveiled NYC's *Pandemic Influenza Preparedness and Response* plan. The plan, created in response to a potential global influenza pandemic, covers critical areas such as monitoring, lab capacity, vaccine delivery, hospital preparedness and communications. This plan has been developed with City, State and Federal input, and is part of a coordinated multi-agency emergency response that includes operational planning by the **Office of Emergency Management** and the **FDNY** and **NYPD**. The plan is available for review at www.nyc.gov/health



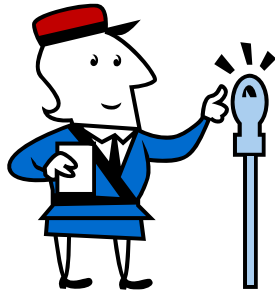
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Sing Out, Louise! – Tony Award-winner Martin Short will host the 15th annual *Broadway on Broadway* concert. The free event will be held in Times Square on Sunday, September 10, beginning at 11:30am. This year's *Broadway on Broadway* will feature performances of songs from almost every musical currently running on Broadway, including *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Wicked*. There will also be

sneak peeks at several shows scheduled to open during the 2006-2007 season, including *Company*, *Les Misérables*, and *Grey Gardens*. More than 50,000 spectators are expected to attend the event. For further information, call 1-888-BROADWAY or visit www.BroadwayonBroadway.com.

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

Labor Day – Mon., Sept. 4
Rosh Hashanah – Sat. & Sun., Sept. 23 & 24

For more information on Parking Regulations, visit the DOT Parking Calendar at www.nyc.gov/finance. Information can also be obtained by calling 311.

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Precinct Community Council Meetings



Each month local Police Precincts hold **Community Council Meetings** where community members can voice their concerns for 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 and Joe Abruzzese at 212-477-7427
- **Midtown North Precinct** - Every 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:30pm. Contact: Det. Stephen Giaco or P.O. Diane O'Connor 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

Attached is a spreadsheet listing this month's applicants. You will need Adobe Acrobat Reader to access this document. It is available free by clicking on the below icon.



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

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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.

To be removed from our mailing list, simply reply to this email with "**REMOVE**" in the subject line.