



# THE MANHATTAN MIDTOWN

The Official Newsletter of Community Board Five  
September 2009

## Inside:

[Welcome](#)

[www.cb5.org](http://www.cb5.org)

[Schedule and Agendas](#)

[News and Events](#)

[Precinct Community  
Councils](#)

[Liquor License Applicants](#)

[Contact Us](#)

## COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Dear Friends –

It's about to be Autumn in New York ("Glittering crowds and shimmering clouds, In canyons of steel, They're making me feel – I'm home")\*.

This September, we have our municipal primaries on Tuesday, September 15, and the Broadway League has named September "Back 2 Broadway Month" with a series of events (see below for more information), including the annual free Broadway on Broadway concert on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup>.

The new seats, tables and umbrellas have arrived at the Times Square pedestrian mall so, along with the popular red glass steps riding above the TKTS booth (not to mention Jude Law as Hamlet), this should be a fall unlike any other in the heart of our district. Even Jude may have trouble staying melancholy.

"It's autumn in New York. It's good to live it again."\*

Sincerely,  
Wally Rubin  
District Manager

\*("Autumn in New York", by Vernon Duke)

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## News and Events

**Now What Do I Do? -** It seems that NYC has a guideline for everything, especially buildings. Whether you own or rent, at some point you're bound to have questions about what is and isn't ok to do. A website/blog devoted to addressing building issues answers complicated questions in easy, understandable language. **Permitspace** is a website that answers frequently asked questions regarding **NYC Building Code and Zoning** issues in clear, straightforward language. While geared toward the construction industry, the site



offers concise explanations on issues of concern to anyone living in NYC – handicapped accessibility, fire prevention codes, Landmarking procedures, and violations, to name a few. When the information is so complex and the resources so scattered, it's nice to have someplace that simplifies and clarifies. [Permitspace](http://www.permitspace.blogspot.com) can be found at [www.permitspace.blogspot.com](http://www.permitspace.blogspot.com)

**\*@^!%\$!!!!-** Given the state of NYS politics, what better way to get information on what's going on in Albany than to ask your elected representative directly! On Tuesday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, **State Senator Tom Duane** will be hosting a Town Hall meeting to discuss Albany in all its glory, local issues and constituent concerns. The Town Hall takes place from 6:30p – 8:30p at **The Duke on 42<sup>nd</sup> Street**, 229 West 42<sup>nd</sup> between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. For more information please contact Senator Duane's office directly at 212.633.8052 or [duane@senate.state.ny.us](mailto:duane@senate.state.ny.us) Bring a neighbor! Bring a friend! But leave the boxing gloves at home!



**Prepare For Spring!** - School may be just around the corner but it's never too early to prep for the spring flower season. Each year hundreds of thousands of daffodils are planted around the city as part of **The Daffodil Project**, sprinkling Midtown and everywhere with bursts of color. This dandy event was originally created to commemorate September 11<sup>th</sup>, but has become a yearly happening. Led by **New Yorkers for Parks** in cooperation with the **Department of Parks and Recreation**, this event not only brings together volunteers and raises the spirits of New Yorkers,



but also draws attention to the needs of neglected parks and open spaces all over town. **The Daffodil Project** is made possible in part by the generosity of a Dutch bulb supplier, Hans van Waardenburg, who has pledged to donate 500,000 daffodil bulbs to the project each year as long as there are volunteers willing to plant them. This year Bryant Park and the Union Square Greenmarket serve as bulb distribution sites. For more information on these dandy daffodils visit [www.ny4p.org](http://www.ny4p.org)



**Have An Adventure Right Here At Home** - At the end of the month, The Concrete Jungle becomes The Great Outdoors as **Adventures NYC** takes over Central Park! This FREE event encourages both novice and experienced outdoor enthusiasts to participate in a variety of adventure-based activities. Everything from rock climbing to yoga clinics to kayaking and music! All free! The event takes place on Saturday, August 29<sup>th</sup> at the Bandshell at 72<sup>nd</sup> Street, from 12p - 4p. For more information visit [www.nyc.gov/parks](http://www.nyc.gov/parks) or call 311.



## **You Mean That's Not Part Of The Building?**

- They're ugly and they're everywhere in Midtown! More than 1,000,000 feet of sidewalk sheds cover the streets of NYC. And they typically stay up for at least one year. A necessary evil? Sure. They protect pedestrians from debris from construction sites and support other structures; but they undermine the beauty of architecture. Can't they at least be a little more pleasing to the eye? Well, finally NYC just might have a sidewalk shed suitable for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. The **New York City Buildings Department** and the **American Institute of Architects**, among others, have partnered to create an open competition that challenges the global design community to create a new standard of sidewalk shed design and develop a prototype worthy of today's New York City. Engineers, architects, designers and students from all related fields are invited to compete, generating innovative, compelling and environmentally friendly proposals to thoroughly re-imagine temporary sidewalk shed design while improving the pedestrian experience. Exciting, no? For more information on this competition to improve NYC, visit [www.urbanshed.org](http://www.urbanshed.org)



NYC's

**Pull Up A Chair** - Summer may be winding down, but Times Square never does! With the conversion this summer of parts of Broadway into pedestrian plazas, the Times Square area becomes a unique urban



environment - part concert stage, part boulevard, and part major thoroughfare. This brings an energy and excitement to Midtown unlike anywhere else in the city. And not only can you sit right in the middle of Broadway, but you can see a concert while you do it. September is Back 2 Broadway month in Times Square, and during this time you can take in free concerts and celebrity chats, theatre tours, karaoke competitions and even a flea market! So do more than just walk through Times Square – have a seat and look around a bit. For more information visit [www.timessquarenyc.org](http://www.timessquarenyc.org)

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## Parking Calendar

**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:



**Monday, Sept. 7 – Labor Day**  
**Saturday – Sunday, Sept. 19 & 20 – Rosh Hashanah**  
**Saturday – Monday, Sept. 19 – 21 – Idul-Fitr**  
**Monday, Sept. 28 – Yom Kippur**

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](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.