



# Community Board Six Manhattan

## East Midtown News and CB 6 Activities - 1/06/14

**Invite your friends and neighbors to [sign up for this newsletter](#). "Like" CB6 on [Facebook](#).**

*In this issue: **News:** Alternatives to a Sanitation Garage at Brookdale site; new retail at Joseph Slifka Park must get community approval; eyesore newsracks removed; local artists invited to apply for art show; senior evictions a growing concern in CB6; and more. **Events:** Women's clothing drive in January; tax refund awareness phonathon, Jan. 31. **Services:** Free employment support boot camp; preparedness plans for buildings; join the CB6 list of leaders of East Midtown coop and condo boards and tenant associations; new electronic waste disposal rules; and more.*

### News

#### CB6 reviews alternatives to Department of Sanitation garage project

The Land Use Committee [reviewed a planning report](#) that presented two alternatives to the NYC Dept. of Sanitation's proposal for a sanitation garage on the Brookdale campus site.

#### New retail proposed for park returned for more community consultation

Rivergate Apartments has proposed building a [retail building on Joseph Slifka Park](#). The City Planning Commission has referred the plan back [for additional input from the community](#).

#### Eyesore News Racks Removed



In August, our summer interns conducted street surveys and identified 67 news racks that were dirty and/or covered in graffiti and apparently abandoned by the Learning Annex. CB6 reported the locations of these news racks to the Department of Transportation. We are happy to report that DOT found the news racks to be in violation of [City standards](#), and are taking them off the streets.

### **Local artists invited to apply for annual GNA Art Exhibit**

Gramercy Neighborhood Associates will host its annual Art Exhibit at the National Arts Club on Gramercy Park. Local artists are [invited to apply](#) by January 23. Submissions are judged by a panel of art gallery curators. The show opens February 24.

### **Senior evictions are an increasing concern in CB6**

Seven percent of tenants facing eviction in NYC are seniors. Over 21,000 seniors live within CB6, almost 15 percent of the district's population. Rajesh Nayar, chair of the Community Board 6 Housing and Homelessness Committee, points to the cutting of federal rent subsidy programs, and the loss of some of the district's rent stabilized apartments. [Here's an article](#) on this issue; and here is our [eviction prevention resource guide](#).

### **Slow buses**

The M-15 bus, which runs along First and Second Avenues, is the city's busiest bus line. It is also the recipient of the Straphangers Campaign's [Scheppy Award for least reliable service](#). Send [your questions or complaints](#) about area bus service to the office.

### **Con Ed upgrading steam infrastructure on E. 15th St.**

Con Ed is continuously storm hardening vital infrastructure throughout the city to ensure continuous service and/or rapid restoration after a severe storm. [Starting in](#)

[February](#), they will be connecting the 15th St. and First Ave. steam mains for improved capacity.

### **Apply by Jan. 9 for Cultural Tourism Development Grant**

Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer announces that the 2015 NYC & Company Foundation Borough Culture Grant application is now available to support nonprofit arts and cultural projects. [Applications are due via email](#) by Friday, January 9th.

---

## **Events**

### **Women's clothing drive in January**

Please drop off women's clothing, coats and accessories at the [Grand Central branch](#) of the NY Public Library for donation to the [New Providence Women's Shelter](#).

### **Annual homeless street census, Jan. 26: volunteers needed**

NYC Dept. of Homeless Services is conducting its annual Homeless Outreach Population Estimate on Jan. 26. [Thousands of volunteers are needed](#).

### **Join the Earned Income Tax Credit phonathon, Jan. 31**

Hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers are missing out on anywhere from \$2,000 to \$10,000 in tax credits, like the Earned Income Tax Credit and Child Care Tax Credit. About 25% of eligible working families fail to claim their money - money families need to help pay for daily necessities - because many people don't know about these programs. NYC Dept. of Consumer affairs is hosting a phonathon to let our neighbors know about refundable tax credits. [Please sign up for a two hour shift](#) on Sat. Jan. 31. There's [a location in every borough](#).

---

## **Services**

### **Free employment support boot camp**

Expand your job hunting skills and career options - apply now for a [free two-week long intensive training course](#) in midtown Manhattan. SAGEworks programs are targeted to LGBT people over the age of 40 but are open to all.

## **What's next after getting your "go bag"?**

Review [the Four Steps to Preparedness presentation online here](#): creating a household emergency plan; preparing an emergency kit; becoming aware of potential disruptions and learning what to do before, during and after; and lastly, volunteer opportunities.

CB6 would like to share what your building or civic group is doing to become more prepared and resilient and to assist residents in upcoming newsletters. [Contact us here](#).

## **Join the Community Board 6 List of Leaders of East Midtown Coop and Condo Boards and Tenant Associations**

CB6 can provide information about an array of city services and assist boards of coops, condos and tenant associations in addressing city service delivery concerns and expediting service requests. [Join the contact list](#). Send us the name, email and other contact information for your president or representative, along with the address of your building. We'll add you to our [list of community organizations](#) - or if you prefer, we'll keep it private.

## **New electronic waste disposal rules now in effect**

Starting in January 2015, it will be illegal for New Yorkers to discard electronics in the trash. There are many FREE, convenient options to properly recycle your unwanted electronics.

Visit [nyc.gov/electronics](http://nyc.gov/electronics) for more info.

- Department of Sanitation's [e-cycleNYC](#) program. Apartment buildings with more than 10 units can enroll for this free and convenient pickup service.
- Retail drop-off programs. There are over 90 locations where you can drop off electronics (no purchase required), including any Goodwill, Salvation Army, Best Buy, Staples (no TVs). See map of [NYC Electronics Drop Off Locations](#).
- Free mail-back programs. Check your brand's website for details.
- Electronics recycling events. Bring to drop off events run by organizations such as Lower East Side Ecology Center, or DSNY's [SAFE Disposal Events](#).
- Donate or sell working electronics through the [NYC Stuff Exchange](#).

## **The rules for food trucks**

Here's [our short guide to permitted locations](#) for food trucks and carts, and applicable NYC Dept. of Health regulations.

## **Eviction Prevention Resource Guide**

A small but growing number of area residents may be at risk of eviction from their home. CB6 has compiled a list of [eviction prevention, housing and tenant advocacy resources](#).

### **Use 311 for City service requests**

Post or forward [our flyer](#) that explains how calling 311 can help keep our neighborhood clean and orderly. You can also enter 311 requests online at [www.nyc.gov/311](http://www.nyc.gov/311) or from a smartphone.

Contact [office@cbsix.org](mailto:office@cbsix.org) with the 311 request number you are given to expedite service.

Call 911 to report emergencies or crimes in progress. [Download the flyer here](#).

### **Learn More About CB6 and Community Boards**

Go to our [resources page](#) to learn about how CB6 and community boards work, and other items such as directories of community organizations, senior services and elected officials.

### **Submit your Questions and Complaints**

Please contact CB6 at [office@cbsix.org](mailto:office@cbsix.org) with your comments, questions and service requests.

### **See Previous CB6 Newsletters**

Visit [our newsletter archive page](#) to catch up on what you may have missed.

***Invite your friends and neighbors to [sign up for this newsletter](#). Like CB6 on [Facebook](#).***