



Community Board Six Manhattan

East Midtown News and CB 6 Activities - 1/22/14

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*In this issue: **News:** Asser Levy Park ribbon cutting on Jan. 30; ID NYC; waterfront resilience task force formed; polystyrene ban; annual Gramercy Neighborhood Associates arts show; and more. **Events:** Women's clothing drive in January; annual homeless street census 1/26; tax refund awareness phonathon, 1/31; next roundtable for boomers and seniors 2/19. **Services:** Traffic enforcement agents in CB6; snow plans and winter heat guidelines; SCRIE renamed; overnight construction on E. 58th St.; join the CB6 list of leaders of East Midtown coop and condo boards and tenant associations; and more.*

News

Ribbon Cutting at Asser Levy Park

Parks Commissioner Mitchell Silver and Council Member Daniel Garodnick invite you to the rescheduled ribbon cutting ceremony for the newly constructed [Asser Levy Park](#), which will be held on Friday, January 30, 2015 at 11 a.m. The park is located between East 23rd – 25th Streets on the former Asser Levy Place between First Avenue and the FDR Drive.

NYC Municipal ID Program Coming in Late January

IDNYC is the new, free identification card for all New York City residents. It will be of particular benefit to the homeless, youth, the elderly, undocumented immigrants, the formerly incarcerated and others who may have difficulty obtaining other government-issued ID. IDNYC cardholders will be able to access City programs as well as City buildings that provide public services. IDNYC will also provide benefits to cardholders, including a free one-year membership at many of the City's leading museums, zoos,

concert halls, and botanical gardens. [Read more here.](#)

Community Boards 3 and 6 create waterfront resilience task force

The Big U project is a federally funded ten mile long protective barrier to be built along parts of the Manhattan shoreline, expected to begin construction in 2017. Instead of typical flood barriers and walls, the project will include raised pathways, parks, berms and mechanized barriers. CB6 Chair Sandro Sherrod is chairing [the task force](#), which will offer community input.

Biotech project proposed for Kips Bay

Councilmember Garodnick has [proposed a biotech or healthcare project](#) adjacent to the Brookdale site at which Dept. of Sanitation has proposed a new garage.

Polystyrene packaging to be banned

Beginning on July 1, food establishments will be [barred from using plastic foam cups or containers](#). Polystyrene cannot be recycled and clogs landfills. The city expects to begin enforcement in 2016. CB6 supported the ban.

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.

What's the residential population of CB6?

Is it: (a) 49, 513, (b) 142,745, or (c), 327,119? To find out, visit [the Resources page](#) on the CB6 website, and follow the link to the CB6 profile page from the NYC Department of City Planning. The profile also has census tract information, a list of district facilities, and the CB6 District Needs Statement.

Recent renovation at Vanderbilt YMCA

From now through February 9, the [Vanderbilt YMCA](#) (224 East 47th Street, between Second Avenue and Third Avenue) will waiving its joiner's fee for new members. [Click here to take a virtual tour of their recently renovated facility.](#)

East Midtown Partnership Passport Cards

If you don't have a card in your purse or wallet, order one today. It's free, and gives you access to special discounts and exclusive benefits at over 85 East Midtown restaurants, retailers, entertainment venues and other businesses throughout the area. [Click here to request a card.](#)

Jazz at Saint Peter's Church

St. Peter's on Lexington Ave. and 54th St. hosts a free [weekly jazz concert on Wednesdays](#) at 1 PM. The program has run continuously since its founding in 1982, and is part of a larger [jazz ministry](#). Church [programs](#) include seniors, homeless, recovery, and interfaith issues.

Manhattan Community Board Applications are now available

Details at the Manhattan Borough President's [website](#).

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](#).

Roundtable for Boomers and Seniors on February 19th

This event, convened by Senator Liz Krueger, will look at caregiving, aging in place and affordable senior housing options. Lenox Hill Neighborhood House, 331 E. 70th St., 8:30 AM. RSVP [via email](#) or call 212-490-9535.

Services

A closer look at NYPD Traffic Enforcement Agents



NYPD's Traffic Special Operations unit oversees about 400 agents tasked with improving traffic flow and avoiding grid lock. Traffic agents are trained to write tickets as well as to direct traffic. They have recently been authorized to write police accident reports, speeding up response time and reducing traffic jams. About 45 of them are tasked with improving pedestrian safety as a part of Vision Zero.

Traffic agents are deployed citywide at all bridge and tunnel exits and entrances. They're assigned to heavily trafficked intersections, identified through statistical accident report data and DOT input, and can be privately hired to support construction projects. Within CB6 there are 29 intersections that traffic enforcement agents cover on a daily basis, mainly around 34th St., Lexington Ave., and the Queens Midtown Tunnel and Queensboro Bridge entrances. [Here's a NY Times article about NYPD's 3,000 traffic agents.](#)

Heating and Hot Water During Winter Months

Winter temperatures are here. Building owners are required to provide heat to all tenants at the times and temperatures pictured below. If you do not have appropriate heat or hot water, submit a 311 complaint, and contact the CB6 board office. Visit the [Housing Preservation and Development](#) website to search the complaint history for your building, and find tips on staying warm until the heat returns.

The infographic is divided into two columns. The left column is for 'DAY' (October 1st - May 31st, 6 a.m. - 10 p.m.) and the right column is for 'NIGHT' (October 1st - May 31st, 10 p.m. - 6 a.m.). Each column features a house icon with 'AT LEAST 68° INSIDE' and 'AT LEAST 55° INSIDE' respectively. Below the house icons, it says 'BELOW 55° OUTSIDE' for day and 'BELOW 40° OUTSIDE' for night. At the bottom, it states 'Tenants Without Heat Should Call (24 Hours a Day - 7 Days a Week)' and provides contact information for the 3-1-1 Citizen Service Center and the NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development.

Time Period	Outside Temperature Requirement	Inside Temperature Requirement
DAY (6 a.m. - 10 p.m.)	BELOW 55°	AT LEAST 68°
NIGHT (10 p.m. - 6 a.m.)	BELOW 40°	AT LEAST 55°

Tenants Without Heat Should Call (24 Hours a Day - 7 Days a Week)

3-1-1 Citizen Service Center
For Hearing Impaired
TTY (212) 504-4115

NYC Department of Housing Preservation & Development

SCRIE and DRIE renamed as NYC Rent Freeze Program

Visit nyc.gov/rentfreeze for more about this program for people 62 years of age and over and people with disabilities, application status reports, and the [new guide to the program](#).

NYC Snow Plans

Here's a list of [frequently asked questions about NYC snow removal](#) operations, and more about how [Dept. of Sanitation](#) plans to handle the snow this year. Expecting severe weather? Save the link to NYC's [Severe Weather](#) update page.

Details on NYC Dept. of Design and Construction Projects

There are several DDC projects within CB6, including the third water tunnel project at E. 58th St. and the E. 34th St. Transitway project. See [details on all DDC projects on this map](#).

Night work on 2nd Ave. between East 57th and 59th Streets

From [January 12 and continuing until further notice](#), NYC Department of Design + Construction will be conducting night work as part of installation of new trunk water mains as part of the [third water tunnel](#) project.

The Manhattan District Attorney's office has summer internships for high school and college students. [Apply here](#).

NYC Dept. of Transportation's [alternate side of the street parking calendar](#).

NY's Health Plan Marketplace - Open Enrollment is here

New York's Marketplace, being administered as a part of the Federal health care reform law, is a way for individuals, families, and small businesses (under 50 employees) to find quality health insurance. It can help if you don't have coverage now, or if you have insurance but want to look at other options under certain conditions. Free and low-cost options are available to those who qualify. For more information, call 1-855-355-5777 or visit the [Marketplace online](#). Here's a list of free [health care navigators and counselors](#).

New Legal Services NYC Government Benefits Hotline

Call the Government Benefits Hotline at 917-661-4500 for help accessing Public Assistance, SNAP (Food Stamps), HASA, one-shots, and Medicaid.

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.

On the CB6 Resource Page

- CB6 list of [community organizations](#), tenant groups and coop board contacts
- List of [houses of worship](#) in CB6
- CB6 list of [eviction prevention, housing and tenant advocacy resources](#).
- Maps of street tree locations in CB6, and [tree care resources](#)
- [Our short guide to permitted locations](#) for food trucks and carts.
- New electronic waste disposal rules and [free recycling options](#)
- What's next after getting your go bag? Review [the 4 Steps to Preparedness](#): household emergency plans; emergency kits; becoming aware of potential disruptions and learning what to do before, during and after; and lastly, volunteer opportunities.
- Call 311 to expedite service requests. Contact office@cbsix.org with the 311 request number you are given to expedite service.
- [Our 311 flyer](#) explains the benefits of calling 311 for neighborhood issues, or entering requests online at www.nyc.gov/311. Copy or customize it for your building.
- List of CB6 [Full Board meeting minutes](#) and resolutions
- Other [CB6 resources](#), such as the FAQ on how community boards work; and directories of elected officials, police precincts and senior services
- [The CB6 newsletter archive](#), to catch up on what you may have missed

Submit your Questions and Complaints

Please contact CB6 at office@cbsix.org with your comments, questions and service requests.

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