



# Community Board Six Manhattan

## East Midtown News and CB 6 Activities - April 9, 2014

*In this issue:*

**News:** a new plan for east midtown, comedy club under review, construction updates, SCRIE program expanded, annual show for local artists. **Events:** police precinct community councils, flower planting volunteer days, free financial empowerment day, free workshop on cutting energy bills for co-ops and condos on 5/06, jazz concerts.

**CB6 activities:** March committee minutes. **City services:** Best practices for bicycle parking - use a CityRack, available to business and building owners at no charge; summer internships in law enforcement and youth sports programs.

### News

#### **Councilmember Dan Garodnick calls for a new plan for east midtown.**

The plan should create a vibrant 21st century business district, and not an isolated set of new skyscrapers, [said the Councilmember](#). It should improve pedestrian and transit circulation, open space, and access to daylight, while recognizing the historic elements of midtown.

#### **Comedy club under review**

The CB6 Business Affairs and Street Activities (BASA) Committee voted unanimously against the transfer of the liquor license of an [East 24th St. comedy club](#) based on open violations for safety issues and noisy crowds, and gave prospective new owners a month to address the problems.

#### **State budget include rent subsidy increase for seniors**

The Senior Citizen Rent Increase Exemption (SCRIE) Program has helped seniors remain in affordable housing. New provisions would [expand SCRIE assistance](#) to seniors with income up to \$50,000. Currently, seniors earning more than \$29,000 are ineligible. To find out if you are eligible, or for assistance applying for SCRIE, contact Lennox Hill Neighborhood House at 212-744-5022 ext. 1392.

### **303 East 51st Street Update**

After hours work will continue until 9 PM each night this week. [Updates here](#).

### **Crane placement to close East 50th Street between 1st and 2nd Ave.**

As part of construction at 301 East 50th Street, the street will be closed from 6 AM on Sat. April 12 to 9 PM on Sun. April 13. For detailed updates on this project contact [Turtle Bay Association](#).

### **Water Service Interruptions on 1st Ave. between E. 57th and 59th Streets**

As part of the [Third Water Tunnel project](#), the existing water main in this area must be replaced, old pipe withdrawn and new pipe installed. [Over the next few weeks](#), buildings with water service on 1st Ave. may have water shutoffs.

### **Water main installation on East 42nd Street to start in mid-April**

DDC plans to [install water mains on East 42nd St.](#), Park Avenue, and adjacent streets, on the western edge of CB6. It is expected to be complete in summer 2016.

### **Annual show for local artists at National Arts Club**

Artistically talented CB6 residents are invited to enter [Gramercy Neighborhood Associates' annual show](#) at the the National Arts Club. This year's show just ended, so add it to your calendar for next year. A portrait of Nelson Mandela in African style bead work created by CB6 board member Claude L. Winfield was included in the show. See pictures [on our Facebook page](#).

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## **Events**

### **NYPD 13th Precinct Community Council, Tues. April 15, 6:30 PM**

Meet police officers of the [13th Precinct](#) to discuss community issues on the third Tuesday of the month from September to June. 230 East 21st Street, between 2nd and 3rd Avenues.

### **NYPD 17th Precinct Community Council, Tues., April 29**

Meet police officers from [the 17th Precinct](#) on the last Tuesday of each month at 6 P.M. at the Sutton Place Synagogue, 225 East 51st Street.

*Note that there are two separate Kips Bay neighborhood groups, each with their own events.*

### **Kips Bay Neighborhood Alliance Spring Flower Planting, April 19 & 26**

Meet neighbors for flower planting at 33rd & 2nd Ave. on Saturdays 4/19 and 4/26 at 9 AM. Kids are welcome and gardening tools will be provided.

Contact [kbna.info@gmail.com](mailto:kbna.info@gmail.com) to RSVP.

KBNA's Spring Community Day will take place on Sat. 5/17 on the 2nd Ave. service road. Coming soon: USPS mailbox painting and a Glick Park work day. Volunteers welcome. Visit them online at <http://kbna.tumblr.com/>.

### **Kips Bay Neighborhood Association Gardening Days in April and May**



Last fall, the Association planted bulbs in empty tree pits on 30th St. between First and Second Avenue - and here are the results. More pics on [our Facebook page](#). Kips Bay Neighborhood Association's gardeners work with local businesses and institutions in planting and maintaining their small gardens. They have volunteer days every other Saturday morning from Easter through Labor Day. [Email them](#) for details or visit [www.kipsbayneighborhoodassociation.org](http://www.kipsbayneighborhoodassociation.org).

4/19: Fairway tree pits and flower boxes, 30th St. and 2nd Ave. 4/26 and 5/10: 33 Club Senior Center, 305 East 33rd St. 5/17: Vincent Albano Playground, Second Avenue and 29th St.

### **Free - Financial Empowerment Day, Friday, April 25, 11 AM - 6 PM**

Free half-hour private counseling sessions for financial planning, dealing with credit crises, and accessing Medicare benefits, and other classes. Meet representatives of many City, State and Federal agencies. Science, Industry and Business Library, 188 Madison Avenue @ 34th Street. [Click here for more](#).

### **Free Workshop**

#### **Cutting Energy Bills for Co-ops & Condos**

**Tuesday, May 6, 6:30 to 8:30 PM**

## Co-sponsored by CB6, Solar 1, and NYS Energy Research and Development Authority

Sutton Place Synagogue, 225 E. 51st Street, NY NY 10022

In this interactive workshop for multi-family building owners and managers, learn how to cut costs, increase tenant comfort, have a greener building, and comply with new building codes. Residents invited too! You will learn about:

- Proven strategies for working with your coop or condo board, building residents and staff, and property managers;
- Incentives and funding sources for capital improvements related to energy efficiency and renewable energy systems;
- Complying with new laws and code changes - such as the phase out of No. 4 and 6 heating oil - and avoiding associated penalties. [RSVP and more info here.](#)

### Middday Jazz at Saint Peter's Church, Wednesdays at 1 PM

No charge to attend [the concerts](#), held at 619 Lexington Ave. at East 53rd St.

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### Minutes from CB6 Committee Meetings in March

- The [Transportation Committee](#) approved co-naming 29th St. between 3rd & Lexington Avenues after the late Rabbi Sidney Kleiman; and discussed Vision Zero initiatives including slow zones, dangerous intersections, and assignment of street safety managers
  - [BASA](#) reviewed a number of liquor licenses.
  - [Health & Education](#) discussed proposed legislation on medical marijuana.
  - [Land Use & Waterfront](#) discussed the NYC Economic Development Corporation proposal for the redevelopment of a building at 455 First Avenue at 26th St. now used by the NYC Public Health Laboratory, and agreed on three priority issues for long term planning.
  - [Housing, Homeless & Human Rights](#) heard an update on Phipps Plaza South rezoning.
  - [Parks, Landmarks & Cultural Affairs](#) approved proposals to upgrade windows in Tudor City and to install a temporary sculpture in Dag Hammarskjold Plaza.
  - [Public Safety and Environment](#) heard a [presentation on post-Hurricane Sandy resilience](#) from the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning.
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### Services

Don't chain your bike to a tree



Chaining bikes to trees can result in a \$250 fine. Bicycles are often chained to City infrastructure, light poles or tree guards. Think they've been abandoned? If Dept. of Sanitation staff verifies that the bike has been unmoved for at least seven business days, and is significantly damaged, they may classify the bike as derelict and remove it. (Ghost bikes, as memorials, are not considered derelict bikes and can't be removed.)

### **Park your bike at a CityRack**



NYC Dept. of Transportation's [CityRacks](#) provide free sidewalk bicycle parking racks throughout the five boroughs. CityRacks are a convenience for the entire cycling community. Also, the availability of CityRacks parking discourages cyclists from parking at mailboxes, parking meters, trees, and other sidewalk structures. If you are a property or business owner and wish to install your own racks, [contact DOT for the permit](#), for which there is a small fee. DOT will drop off the rack at no charge for the owner to install.

### **Combine CityRacks to make Bike Corrals**



[Bike corrals](#) are rows of CityRacks installed in the curbside lane of the street instead of on the sidewalk. It's especially for places where demand for bicycle parking outstrips available sidewalk space. Anyone can request a bike corral, but they need a maintenance partner to keep the bike corral clear of snow and debris. [Request one here](#).

### **Discounts at East Midtown businesses**

East Midtown Partnership's [Passport card](#) enables you to receive discounts or special benefits at almost 100 area businesses and attractions. They're free on request.

### **Math tutors needed at High School of Art & Design**

The volunteer tutoring operation at HS of Art and Design on East 56th and 2nd Ave., now in its 20th year, needs math tutors. Adults with a good recall of high school mathematics are invited to apply. Teaching experience is not required.

Contact [FADAllanlevy@aol.com](mailto:FADAllanlevy@aol.com) or 212-688-1422.

### **Summer internships in law enforcement for high schoolers**

The NY County District Attorney's Office offers a six week internship for high school students, in which they assist attorneys and support staff, attend many law-related presentations and trips and prepare for a mock trial throughout the program. [Click here](#) for more.

### **Saturday night sports training programs for teens**

The NY County DA's Office sponsors [Saturday night programming](#) for kids ages 11-18. Professional basketball, baseball and volleyball trainers are hired at eight locations, using asset forfeiture money seized through drug cases. Trainers, officers, and prosecutors interact with the kids in a fun atmosphere and speak about the dangers of drugs, gangs and carrying weapons. Tennis and soccer programs are coming soon.

### **Got a question or complaint?**

Please [contact the CB6 office](#) with your comments, suggestions, questions and service requests.

### **See previous CB6 newsletters**

Visit [our newsletter archive page](#). Our [resource page](#) also has directories of community organizations, senior services, and elected officials.

