
Information that may be of interest...May 18, 2020

The information in this eblast is provided by The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association. We are sharing the information as a service to our members. If this notice does not interest you, please disregard it. This eblast is issued bi-weekly.

If you are having difficulty reading this email, you can view Murray Hill news in PDF format:



[More than 100 years ago, a historical photo from the flu pandemic of 1918] A NY typist wears a flu mask while at her desk, October 16, 1918.

Source: influenzaarchive.org

NEWS HIGHLIGHTS

Coronavirus updates

The COVID Stay-at-Home (PAUSE) directive is still in effect for NYC until at least **May 28**. Mayor de Blasio has announced that NYC may be able to begin reopening in June. New York State is taking a regional approach to reopening. Regions can open as soon as they meet specific criteria. Opening will be done in phases within each region. Businesses that want to reopen should have a plan on how to reopen safely for their employees and customers. We will keep you updated about NYC's reopening.

A new page has been added to the [MHNA website](#): **COVID Reopening guidelines for New York State (NY Forward) and NYC** Although NYC does not yet meet the reopening criteria, we're going in the right direction and it's time to start preparing for reopening. Reminder: all street events in NYC are canceled through June. Beaches in NYC are closed. State beaches will open May 22 at 50% of capacity, and social distancing must be practiced.

What is "Stay-at-Home" or PAUSE?

In general, this means that people should not leave their homes except for essentials such as groceries and medicine or emergencies. When outside, cover your nose and mouth with a scarf, bandanna or mask and practice social distancing (6' between people). Businesses that do not provide essential services must close and send workers home. Businesses considered essential could include grocery stores, restaurants that do take out service, pharmacies, organizations that provide services for vulnerable populations, first responders and hardware stores. Public transportation continues to operate to get nurses, doctors, law enforcement officers, and other essential personnel where they need to go. Everyone else: Limit the use of public transportation to only when necessary.

The situation changes by the hour as new information and directives come out. As much as possible we are trying to provide links to trusted source information so that you can check the most up-to-date information. Read more about:

- [Preventing novel coronavirus \(COVID-19\) and medical information](#)
- [Directives for gatherings and facilities](#)
- [COVID Reopening guidelines for New York State \(NY Forward\) NYC is still in Stay-at-Home \(PAUSE\)](#)
- [Transportation and travel](#)
- [Legislation and executive orders](#)
- [Assistance \(and jobs\) for individuals, homeowners, artists, workers, the unemployed \(and pets\)](#)
- [Food assistance resources](#)
- [Medical resources and calls for medical professionals and volunteers](#)
- [Small business and nonprofits assistance and resources](#)
- [Schools and children](#)
- [Government offices and resource lists](#)
- [Volunteer and donation opportunities](#)
- [Online entertainment, culture & learning](#)
- [Neighborhood houses of worship, museums, educational and cultural institutions](#)
- [Neighborhood restaurants, food & spirits that are open for delivery & pickup](#)
- [Neighborhood retail, health care \(including pets\) & services that are open](#)
- [Neighborhood businesses that are closed until further notice](#)

Mental health resources: NYC Well, a confidential 24/7 helpline, staffed by trained counselors. They can provide brief counseling and referrals to care in over 200 languages. Call 888-NYC-WELL (888-692-9355), text "WELL" to 65173, chat at [NYC.gov/nycwell](https://www.nyc.gov/nycwell). The state's hotline is 844-863-9314 to get free emotional support, consultations and referrals to a provider.

Domestic violence resources: All domestic violence shelters are operating and hotlines are available 24/7. National Domestic Violence Hotline, call 1-800-799-7233 (TTY: 1-800-799-7233), log onto thehotline.org, or text LOVEIS to 22522, Safe Horizon call 1-800-621-HOPE or visit Safehorizon.org/SafeChat to speak with an advocate. The state hotline is 800-942-6906. CDC Reopening guidance for cleaning and disinfecting public spaces, workplaces, businesses, schools, and homes [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html). Visit the CDC coronavirus pages for disinfecting and social distancing guidance for many different types of facilities and activities. Also CDC's Guidance for Where You Live, Work, Learn, Pray, and Play [cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community).

Broadway has canceled performances through September 6, 2020.

5/8/2020 **Gov. Cuomo issued an executive order extending NY's State of Emergency to June 6.** This is the legal framework that allows the governor to bypass some of the bureaucratic requirements, as he makes decisions that must be implemented quickly. This executive order must be renewed every 30 days. State emergency declarations can be supplemented with Federal emergency declarations, which can trigger FEMA aid and more. Read more about FEMA [fema.gov/disaster-declaration-process](https://www.fema.gov/disaster-declaration-process).

5/7/2020 Gov. Cuomo announced that the **moratorium on residential and commercial evictions has been extended until August 20.** Tenants who have financial difficulties can use their security deposits for rent. They will have to be paid back later. There is also a moratorium on late fees.

5/16/2020 **The NYPD will no longer arrest people for not wearing masks in public,** and will focus on enforcing social distancing around gatherings, particularly large gatherings.

5/16/2020 **Masks can be shipped to you.** For those concerned about leaving their homes (e.g. older, immunocompromised and/or disabled New Yorkers) you can request to have masks shipped to you using this form from the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities. a002-irm.nyc.gov/EventRegistration/RegForm.aspx?eventGuid=5c6b9250-3729-4021-8241-650a0d1eecf4.

The MTA's video on how to practice social distancing on subway platforms [youtube.com/watch?v=904DX7labTA](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=904DX7labTA)

FREE COVID-19 Contact Tracing online course (required for all who want to be hired as contact tracers), developed in partnership with Bloomberg Philanthropies. [coursera.org/learn/covid-19-contact-tracing](https://www.coursera.org/learn/covid-19-contact-tracing)

Thanks to Congresswoman Carolyn Maloney for her support for the Heroes Act which passed in the House of Representatives. It would provide stimulus funding targeted for hospitals, the Post Office, police, and renters. she also sent a letter to President Trump asking him to fulfill his commitment to New York State by authorizing the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to cover the full costs of our emergency response to the coronavirus pandemic. New York is the worst-hit state in the nation. [Source: Email from Rep. Carolyn Maloney 5/11/2020 *NY12 Coronavirus Update.*]

Bryant Park's lawn is open for the season, enjoy this peaceful escape in the heart of Manhattan. Social distancing guidelines should be followed in the park.

Neighborhood food establishments that have reopened for pickup and delivery

[El Parador Cafe](#)

[Sarge's Deli](#)

Upcoming events

It's not too late to register your child for pre-K

Parents who missed the application window for their children born in 2016, can still add themselves to waitlists and, depending on availability, could begin to receive offers the same day. To sign up, or for assistance, families can visit [myschools.nyc](https://myschools.nyc.gov) or call 718-935-2009.[Gov. Cuomo is not sure if school buildings will re-open in September.]

May 19 7:30pm

Councilwoman Carlina Rivera's Tuesday COVID-19 conversations

On Facebook Live: facebook.com/CouncilwomanCarlinaRivera. Submit questions in advance, email district2@council.nyc.gov.

May 20 10am

Webinar for building and facility managers: Reopening

Common Areas

Presented by The Cooperator. As our state prepares to reopen, one of the biggest questions raised by the coronavirus pandemic has been when and how (or even whether) to also reopen community association common areas and amenities. Leadership must consider the legitimate safety concerns surrounding nonessential shared spaces, including clubhouses, pools, and gyms. A panel of community association professionals will discuss areas of concern, along with relevant information to assist association leadership in developing practices for reopening common areas while keeping safety and cleanliness front and center. Register https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/4215894832822/WN_uzpc-88LQXKd0iMzfHMswg.

May 20 6pm

Memorial Day inspired Cocktail & Seafood Pairing live virtual event

You'll learn to make the perfect cocktail with Heather Dolland-Tamam, and then an easy seafood pairing with Michael-Ann Rowe! Heather is the founder of Tastes Brands, a consultancy for hand crafted spirits. Michael-Ann, "the *Fashionista*," is the founder of Off the Beaten Palate Productions, branded video production and culinary experiences. You will be able to do the preparations along with Heather and Michael-Ann, and there will be time for Q&A. Please register in advance for this meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqc-2qrDMrG9AlgfrRiqQL41ADHnSCe08k>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting and recipes.

May 21 10am

Online public session of the monthly meeting of the Manhattan Borough Board

Manhattan Borough President is hosting the a formal body composed of all Council Members and Community Board chairs in the borough. Register to attend at zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_hDQM-J4WR4im3WdoyoFrqA and you'll receive an email with instructions on how to be in the online audience. They'll be discussing the necessary measures for any potential reopening of Manhattan.

May 22 8pm (check-in anytime after 7:45pm)

MSC Virtual Comedy Night

Manhattan Comedy School's COMPLIMENTARY Third Virtual Comedy Night. Featuring National headliners: Robin Montague - The Tonight Show, Tony Daro - Saturday Night Live, Mathew Friend, Feraz Sher, Anthony Drew & Jackie Frank. Hosted by Ashley Morris. Register in advance for this Zoom event: <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrf-iupzktHtVnBCJbt0dfLy910X47XoiW>. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

The MHNA's first virtual happy hour!

On May 7, the MHNA hosted the association's first virtual happy hour on Zoom. More than 100 people signed up and over 50 people attended. Our thanks to all who attended. Trustee, Jon Harari hosted the meeting. We heard from several of our neighborhood's elected officials: Assembly member Harvey Epstein, Council Members Keith Powers and Carlina Rivera. The MHNA trustees introduced themselves and their committees, and members and guests all had a chance to introduce themselves and to raise a glass. We plan to have more of these virtual events. Look for details in the coming months.

Census

The Census Bureau began mailing paper questionnaires in mid-April to homes that had not yet responded. If you have not already responded, please complete and [mail back](#) your form as soon as you receive it. And if you prefer, you still have the option of [responding online](#) or by phone instead. Our neighborhood elected officials are asking, "With so many people sheltering in places OTHER than Manhattan, can you complete your census at your Manhattan address?" If you already responded using your "COVID location" you can resubmit your census form at my2020census.gov. The census system removes duplicates, as long as everything but the address remains the same. You do NOT need a code; click the "do not have census code" link below the login button.

Free Streaming video of Murray Hill landmarks

View the video, *Walking Tour of Historic Murray Hill*, brought to you by the MHNA's Preservation & Design Committee. The film includes lively historical background on Murray Hill's notable residents and architectural commentary on 14 New York City landmark buildings, as well as spectacular footage of our scenic neighborhood. Running time approximately 1 hour. This offer will be available during the COVID-19 stay-at-home at murrayhillnyc.org/landmarksvideo.

Changes in the neighborhood



Excavation Begins At 509 Third Avenue In Murray Hill, Manhattan

April 23, 2020, newyorkyimby.com, by Michael Young. Photo: [509 Third Avenue](#). Photo by Tectonic

[NE Corner of 34th Street and 3rd Avenue]

and right across the street...



CetraRuddy-Designed 200 East 34th Street Gets Ready To Rise, In Kips Bay

April 22, 2020, newyorkyimby.com, by Michael Young

The site of [200 East 34th Street](#) in Kips Bay is cleared and ready for excavation to resume for a 31-story mixed-use building. CetraRuddy Architecture is the designer of the 388-foot-tall project, which is alternately addressed [501 Third Avenue](#), and revealed renderings last November. Xiaocheng Zhou is listed as the owner on permits, under the COA 200 East 34th LLC. The

property is located at the corner of East 34th Street and Third Avenue and is expected to yield a total of 135,094 square feet...[200 East 34th Street](#) is slated to be completed in 2022.



Permits Filed For 540 3rd Avenue In Murray Hill, Manhattan

May 9, 2020, newyorkyimby.com, by Vanessa Londono

Permits have been filed for a 17-story mixed-use building at [540 Third Avenue](#) in Murray Hill, Manhattan. Located between East 36th Street and Third Avenue, the corner lot is also addressed as [162 East 36th Street](#)...Robert Gilardian of Gilar Realty is listed as the owner behind the applications.

Murray Hill Crimes Are Down

State Senator Brad Hoylman (27th Senate District) has shared these crime statistics compared to this time last year:

- Precinct #17 (Midtown East/Murray Hill): 58.6% drop in total crime
- Midtown North Precinct: 68.4% drop in total crime
- Midtown South Precinct: 58.7% drop in total crime

You can see the data for specific crimes in Murray Hill using NYPD's CompStat system (Patrol Borough Manhattan South, Precinct 17 compstat.nypdonline.org/2e5c3f4b-85c1-4635-83c6-22b27fe7c75c/view/89).

Transportation & parking

The 7 train elevator at Grand Central Station has reopened. M15 Bus stops have been restored on 2nd Avenue between 33rd and 37th Street

The M15 (2nd Avenue) Local Bus Stop and SBS Bus Stop has been restored: West side of 2nd Avenue between 33rd Street and 37th Street. [Flyer](#)

Protected bike lanes will be installed over the next two weeks on 38th and 39th Street, 1st Avenue to 11th Avenue, There are now plans for 3.9 miles of new bike lanes in midtown. Organizations wishing to have other New York City streets considered for the Open Streets program should reach out to fill out an online survey surveymonkey.com/r/nycopenstreetscommunityrequest. More information is available at nyc.gov/openstreets. Please avoid asking for open street locations along bus, truck, and hospital access routes, as well as locations with gas stations or a large number of driveways.

The MTA's video on how to practice social distancing on subway platforms <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=904DX7labTA>

Alternate side of the street parking will resume for one week, May 18-24.

Cars will have to be moved for street cleaning during the week of May 18-24. Starting May 25, for two weeks, alternate side of the street parking will again be suspended.

Legislation

Council Passes Restaurant Relief Bills, Will Cap Delivery Fees

May 13, 2020, patch.com, by Brendan Krisel

Bills will waive third-party delivery fees and prevent landlords from holding restaurateurs personally liable for business closures...A second bill related to third-party delivery fees would prevent the services from charging businesses for phone calls that do not result in orders...The bills will go into effect on a temporary basis during the duration of emergency orders and an additional 90 days, according to the legislation. Supporters may push for more permeant caps on third-party delivery fees in the future...A bill proposed by City Councilmember Carlina Rivera prohibits landlords from holding business owners from enforcing personal liability clauses in commercial leases...New York Mayor Bill de Blasio, who will need to sign the bills into law, said Tuesday that he will support the "smart" legislation on third-party delivery fees. The mayor has not announced support for the remaining bills in the package.

Related: The NYC Council passed a package of bills to help small businesses by capping food delivery app commission fees to as little as 5% during the pandemic; preventing commercial

landlords from going after COVID-impacted small business owners' personal assets; protecting COVID-impacted small businesses from harassment; prohibiting delivery apps from charging restaurants for phone orders that didn't take place; and suspending sidewalk cafe fees. Read more <https://council.nyc.gov/press/2020/05/13/1954/>

[Source: NYC Council Speaker Corey Johnson's email of 5/15/2020. The next step is for Mayor de Blasio to sign the bill.]

Public service notices

NYC Council Member Keith Powers needs volunteers

Help call our neighbors to check in on their well-being. Contact his office by email kpowers@council.nyc.gov. You can sign up online to join them at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSegRdzfWh3j4POqOzzGxySfgPJ_pJg2b9E5f8_a8BLIyeITwA/viewform.

Changes to the Discount Program

New

CitiView Media New York has a team of digital marketing experts offering a complete array of services at very affordable rates. Digital packages can cater to any size budget or initiative, large or small. Their services include: content creation * SEO * Google Ad Words * Geo Fencing * social media management * website design and/or maintenance * videos * reporting results * monitoring posts and creating appropriate responses. *MHNA members get a 20% discount with your commitment to utilize their digital services for a minimum of one month.* Basic packages begin at \$500 per month prior to the discount and can be catered to your specific needs. Contact Kevin Yazell at 917-601-8459 or email kevin@citiviewnyc.com.

For businesses: Increase your visibility

Stores that are open for business can register on these pages and be displayed in nycgo's listing. NYCGO is NYC's official guide.

Shop in NYC nycgo.com/shop-in-nyc

Dine in NYC nycgo.com/dine-in-nyc

Virtual NYC nycgo.com/virtual-nyc

Our government representatives

When contacting your representative, be sure to state your address so that they know that you are a constituent. You can see the District maps and sign up for their emails on their websites.

Manhattan Community Board 5: www.cb5.org, 212-465-0907, office@cb5.org

Manhattan Community Board 6: cbsix.org, 212-319-3750, office@cbsix.org

NYC Councilwoman Carlina Rivera, Council District 2: council.nyc.gov/carlina-rivera, 212-677-1077, District2@council.nyc.gov

NYC Council Speaker, Corey Johnson, Council District 3: council.nyc.gov/district-3, 212-564-7757, SpeakerJohnson@council.nyc.gov

NYC Council Member Keith Powers, Council District 4: council.nyc.gov/keith-powers, 212-818-0580, KPowers@council.nyc.gov

Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer: manhattanbp.nyc.gov, 212-669-8300, info@manhattanbp.nyc.gov

Public Advocate Jumaane Williams, #GetHelp, The Office of the Public Advocate assists with complaints and inquiries involving government-related services and regulations. Telephone Hotline: 212-669-7250, email: GetHelp@advocate.nyc.gov

Mayor Bill de Blasio: www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor, 311, online message: <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/mayor-contact.page>

Landmarks Preservation Commission: <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/about/contact-us.page>

NY State Senator Liz Krueger, 28th Senate District: www.nysenate.gov/senators/liz-krueger, 212-490-9535, lkrueger@nysenate.gov

NY State Senator Brad Hoylman, 27th Senate District: <https://www.nysenate.gov/senators/brad-hoylman>, 212-633-8052, hoylman@nysenate.gov

NY State Assembly Member Dan Quart, Assembly District 73, www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Dan-Quart, 212-605-0937, quartd@nyassembly.gov

NY State Assembly Member Harvey Epstein, Assembly District 74, www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Harvey-Epstein, 212-979-9696, epsteinh@nyassembly.gov

NY Assembly Member Richard N. Gottfried, Assembly District 75, www.nyassembly.gov/mem/Richard-N-Gottfried, 212-807-7900, GottfriedR@nyassembly.gov

U.S. Representative Carolyn Maloney, New York's 12th Congressional District: <https://maloney.house.gov>, 212-860-0606, website contact form: <https://maloney.house.gov/contact-carolyn/email-me>

U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer: www.schumer.senate.gov, 212-486-4430, website contact form: <https://www.schumer.senate.gov/contact/email-chuck>

U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand: www.gillibrand.senate.gov, 212-688-6262, website contact form: www.gillibrand.senate.gov/contact/email-me

U.S. President Donald Trump: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/people/donald-j-trump> website contact form: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/contact>

You can also find these eblasts online in PDF (printable) format at www.murrayhillnyc.org in the News section, look for Weekly Eblasts 2020.

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[Read our Privacy Statement](#)

**The MHNA
Better Together!**

**If you are not a member
or your membership has lapsed
please join/renew now**

Join / Renew

Donate

Connect with The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association



**And, don't forget to tag @murrayhillnyc
in your Murray Hill-inspired Instagram photos!**

Visit the MHNA website www.murrayhillnyc.org

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