



Murray Hill

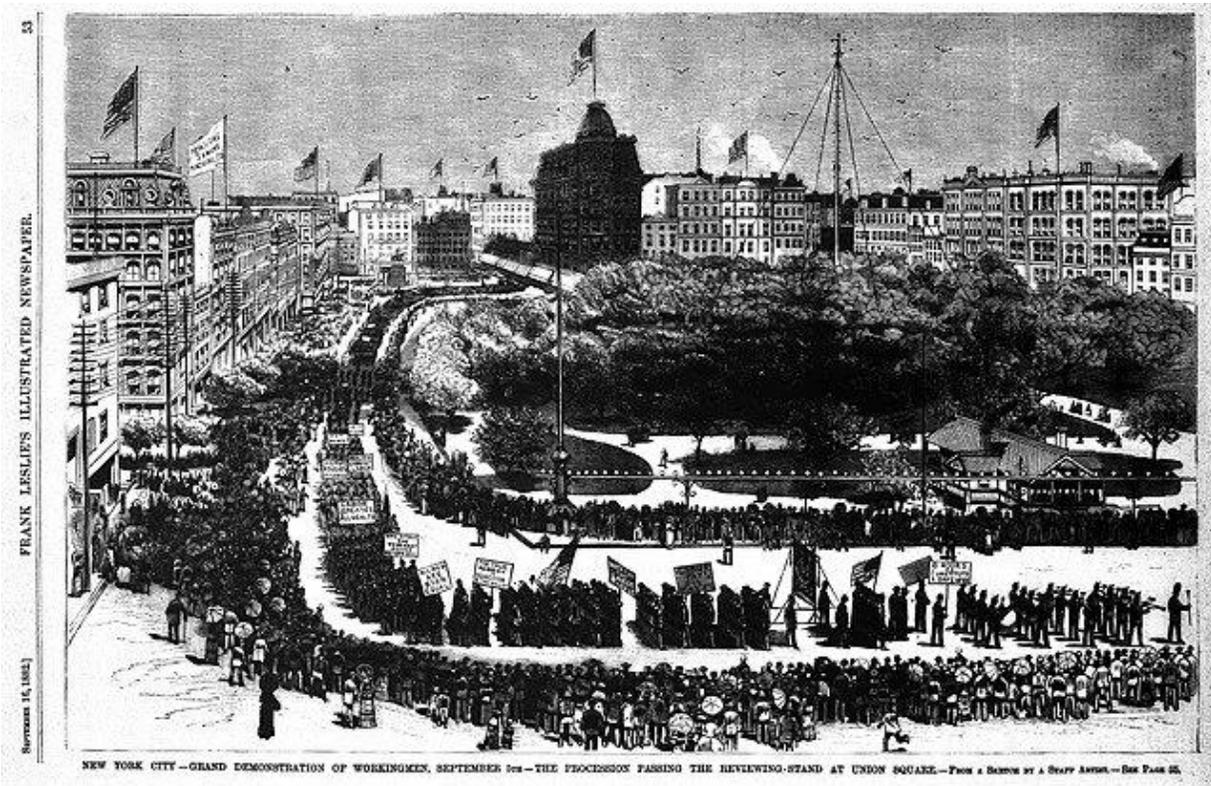
NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

News for Murray Hill...September 5, 2022

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

Please share this email with a friend, neighbor or colleague. You can sign up for these emails at www.murrayhillnyc.org, scroll down the Also Happening column.

The MHNA recognizes the American worker on this Labor Day!



An illustration in Frank Leslie's **Weekly Illustrated Newspaper's** from September 16, 1882 depicts the first Labor Day march. [ending in Union Square, New York City]

A Nationwide Holiday

Source: U.S. Department of Labor

American labor has raised the nation's standard of living and contributed to the greatest production the world has ever known and the labor movement has brought us closer to the realization of our traditional ideals of economic and political democracy. It is appropriate, therefore, that the nation pays tribute on Labor Day to the creator of so much of the nation's strength, freedom, and leadership—the American worker.

Related: The First Labor Day

August/September 1982, *americanheritage.com*, by Richard P. Hunt

Government offices, the Post Office and banks will be closed on Labor Day.

Alternate Side Parking will be suspended on Labor Day. If your trash day is Monday, please check 311 or the Department of Sanitation [website](#) for instructions.

There will be trash collection on Monday. This pilot "on-holiday pick-up" represents an additional service as collection normally does not take place on the holiday. Residents who normally receive Monday recycling collection should place their material out at curbside between 4pm and midnight on the following Sunday, September 11, for pickup on Monday, September 12. Residents who normally receive Monday curbside composting collection should place their material at the curb between 4pm and midnight Monday evening, for collection beginning the next day, Tuesday, September 6.

There will be no Monday work for the Pershing Square East project or the Infrastructure project on 2nd and 1st Avenue.

Welcome new business member

The MHNA introduces Inter-Global Media Network, Inc. and founder Maria Campbell

Inter-Global Media Network, Inc., is Maria Campbell's business, and she offers web development consultation, operating system (OS) consultation, building applications and web sites, teaching, and one-on-one tutoring the aforementioned subjects.

Maria is a Full Stack JavaScript Developer (Front and Back), specialist in all things JavaScript, HTML and CSS, knows Windows and macOS, is a strong proponent of the Maker Culture as regards to web development and fosters it in her building and teaching, is a strong proponent of Git distributed version control and Command Line Interface, also builds digital media features and builds websites in WordPress. She is a team player: there is nothing like building applications that

make everyone's lives or work better, especially as part of a team. Her projects include: apps, web-audio API, speech-to-text API, canvas 2D, web sockets/socket.io, front and backend development, cross-browser compatibility, event handling, UI UX, site performance, video conferencing, and much more.

She also does technical writing and teaches. She is an Adjunct Professor at New York City College of Technology in Brooklyn, N.Y. AKA CityTech. She is a teacher of all things tech in the classroom and one-one-one. Her teaching philosophy and mission is to help students become better acquainted with their operating systems and understand how they work under the hood, and what better way than the Command Line Interface. In addition, Command Line is essential for developers working with a variety of developer tools. Maria teaches on two operating systems: Windows and macOS. Classes and private sessions take on a very hands on approach. Students learn best by doing, which is why Maria is a strong proponent of the maker Culture as regards to web development, and her mission is to foster it in her teaching. Maria also teaches seniors about their computers.

You can contact Maria at Inter-Global Media Network at 646-369-6437, interglobalmedianetwork.com.

Kudos!

CUNY Graduate Center will resume in-person events this fall, in addition to virtual and hybrid events. Join them for inspiration, insight, and new ideas from leading thinkers, authors, and artists. Events are free, and reservations are required, except where noted. The Graduate Center, City University of New York, is located at 365 Fifth Avenue (between 34th & 35th Street), [1-212-817-7000](tel:1-212-817-7000), the schedule for their public programs is at gc.cuny.edu/public-programs.

Transportation and traffic advisories

Please visit www.murrayhillnyc.org Traffic Change Updates section to see the work notices for public projects in the neighborhood: the 2nd Avenue (and surrounding areas) infrastructure replacement project, Pershing Square East, street closure notices, and more.

United Nations General Assembly will be convening in September

Source: Community Board 6's *September 2022 Newsletter* email, September 1, 2022
In the next few weeks, the United Nations General Assembly will be convening in Manhattan Community District 6. The timeframe for the highest impacts will likely be between Sunday,

September 18th and Saturday, September 24th, with heavy traffic, motorcades, occasional ferry suspensions, and modifications to bike lanes occurring. As we learn more about the exact impacts of the General Assembly, we will convey them. But for now, be aware that there will be many street closures during that period between 42nd and 47th Streets on the East Side in the area surrounding the United Nations' headquarters on 1st Avenue.

The new MTA TrainTime app is here!

Exciting news for railroad riders: Long Island Rail Road and Metro-North's TrainTime apps, along with eTix, have been combined into one seamless app experience. The new TrainTime app includes schedule and train-tracking information for both LIRR and Metro-North, along with the ticket-buying functionality of MTA eTix. With the new TrainTime, you can plan a trip, purchase a ticket, get train status and track location, and chat with a customer service representative for either LIRR or Metro-North, all in one app. The new app will also have improved the accuracy and availability of real-time location information across both LIRR and Metro-North, with enhanced GPS train tracking, real-time seat availability, and train makeup. If you currently use MTA eTix and have automatic updates turned on, your app will automatically update to the new TrainTime. Your account information will stay the same, and you will be able to use any tickets that you already bought. The ticket types that are currently available in eTix will still be available, as well the payment methods you currently use. If you currently use Long Island Rail Road TrainTime or Metro-North Train Time but not eTix, you should download the new TrainTime app from the App Store or Google Play. Learn more at new.mta.info/traintime.

OMNI cards for reduced fare customers

The MTA is asking that reduced-fare customers fill out this form reducedfare.mta.info/registration so they can reach out when OMNY is ready. The reduced-fare customers, who do not need to re-apply to the reduced-fare program, will automatically have the same half-fare benefits they currently use.

City Announces 'Groundbreaking' Taxi Medallion Debt Relief Program

Source: Gotham Gazette Eye Opener email, August 31, 2022

Mayor Eric Adams and Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) Chair and Commissioner David Do on Tuesday announced a deal between the New York Taxi Workers Alliance and Marblegate Asset Management, the city's largest taxi medallion lender, to launch a debt relief program next month for more than 3,000 medallion owners. The program, dubbed "Medallion Relief Program +," builds on an existing program from last year, and would allow medallion owners to restructure their loans. Medallion debt will be capped at \$170,000 while the city will provide another \$30,000 as a downpayment on restructured loans. The program will begin September 19.

"Our taxicab medallion owners and drivers have always kept New York City moving, and it is finally time we pay it forward with real debt relief for owners in need," Mayor Adams said in a statement...After being pumped up in part by city government and outside lenders, taxi medallions plummeted in value over the last decade, leaving thousands of drivers in crippling debt and leading to several suicides in recent years..."We are finally at the starting line of a new life for thousands of drivers and our families," said Bhairavi Desai, executive director, NYTWA, in a statement. "The city-backed guarantee is a groundbreaking program that will save and change lives."...Taxi medallions—which allow owners to operate a yellow cab—were valued at more than \$1.2 million before they crashed in 2014. Since then, medallion owners have been grappling with massive debts.

Related: ['Giving us a new life': Debt relief is coming for NYC's yellow taxi medallion owners next month](#)

August 30, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Catalina Gonella

Penn Station update

[Commuter Tunnel Under the Hudson Won't Be Finished Until 2035](#)

August 31, 2022, *nytimes.com*, by Dana Rubinstein

The crucial Gateway transit link from New Jersey to New York will now open three years later than expected and is likely to cost \$2 billion more to construct...Eight years ago, the head of Amtrak warned that the century-old rail tunnel connecting New Jersey to Midtown Manhattan would have to be shut down in some form by 2034 to address the ravages of age and Hurricane Sandy...The commission hopes to make up much of the cost difference with funding from the federal infrastructure law passed last year. The remaining cost overrun will be split between New York and New Jersey and the federal government.

Public service announcements

Squash that spotted lanternfly!

The City's Parks Department is putting out a call: if you see a spotted lanternfly, please squash it and dispose of this invasive pest. Furthermore, you can help prevent the spread of spotted lanternflies by refraining from moving firewood, outdoor furniture, and other outdoor items that may contain spotted lanternfly egg masses. Read more about the spotted lanternfly on the [Parks Department website](#).

[Editor's note: Easier said than done! The Parks Department calls this insect "an invasive plant hopper." I spotted one on our terrace on Saturday. I tried 3 times to "squash" it, going at it from above, from the front and from the back. Each time it hopped 3-4 feet away in one lightning-fast jump. It got away. [Tips on the internet](#) vary from using fly swatters, electric zappers, whiffle ball bats, a shop vac and manual techniques if you don't have the equipment. [Traps](#) are also recommended.]

September is National Preparedness Month

Get ready for whatever may come your way. Disasters can be anything that forces you to shelter in place or to leave your home.

Tips from the **Federal Trade Commission**: [Picking Up the Pieces after a Disaster](#)

NYC Emergency Management (NYCEM) created the **Ready New York** resources about how to prepare for emergencies portal.311.nyc.gov/article/?kanumber=KA-02713.

Hurricanes, tropical cyclones, and nor'easters are all different kinds of storms that can affect New York City. Learn the terms, know the hazards, and be prepared by visiting www1.nyc.gov/assets/em/html/know-your-zone/knowyourzone.html.

News from neighborhood businesses!

Maryel School has resumed their afterschool partnerships, partnering with a few different companies to help provide interactive extracurricular activities to children in NYC. Programs: [Junior Scientist](#) (STEAM) Mondays; [Creature Creator](#) (Robotics) Mondays; Ballet and Flamenco (Spanish) Midtown Movement and Dance, Spanish immersion class, Wednesdays, contact Maryel School for details; Super Soccer Stars (Spanish/English), Thursdays, Contact Maryel School for details.

Maryel School
300 East 35th Street
212-213-2097
maryelschool.org.

Starting Monday, September 5, **Benjamin Steakhouse** on 41st Street will once again be open for breakfast every weekday starting September 5th. Benjamin Steakhouse, 52 East 41st Street (between Madison & Park Avenue), 212-297-9177, benjaminsteakhouse.com.

For businesses and buildings

New COVID-19 Relief Programs explained at [PACE University Small Business Development Center](#)

Empire State Development (ESD) has launched a new program as well as revised another small business pandemic recovery program. To start, the newly launched COVID-19 [Capital Costs Tax](#)

[Credit Program](#) provides tax credits of up to \$25,000 to eligible businesses that made investments to comply with pandemic-related emergency orders and regulations, or to increase public safety. Additionally, ESD has amended the [COVID-19 Pandemic Small Business Recovery Grant Program](#) such that businesses that had losses may be eligible. To learn more about these programs and hear about all the COVID-19 relief your business could qualify for, meet virtually with a Pace SBDC Business Advisor at no-cost.

September 8 12 – 1pm

(virtual) Build a List and Grow Your Biz: How to Get Your First 1,000 Subscribers

(free) Struggling to find an easy way to grow your email list? You don't need a big budget. You just need to attend this session. Join us to discover how to start from scratch or grow your existing list so that you can reach your first 1,000 subscribers. The presenter will give you a simple, easy, and actionable list-building plan that you can start implementing right away. Hosted by the New York Public Library Thomas Yoseloff Business Center. Learn more and register at nypl.org/events/programs/2022/09/08/build-list-and-grow-your-biz-how-get-your-first-1000-subscribers.

September 8 3 – 4pm

(virtual) An Introduction to Trademarks

(free) Get an introduction to the basic principles of trademarks and how they differ from patents and copyrights. Learn how to conduct a trademark search using the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (www.uspto.gov). Hosted by the New York Public Library Thomas Yoseloff Business Center. Learn more and register at nypl.org/events/programs/2022/09/08/introduction-trademarks.

September 8 6pm

(virtual) Community Board 5 Public Hearing & Full Board Meeting

On the agenda for the full board meeting: 68 Lexington Avenue, Lexington Avenue Armory, 69th Regiment, between 25-26th Streets; an application for renovation of landmarked building. Register for the meeting at us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_br9gfB0YThurXvX7p343Rg.

September 10 10am – 6pm (rain or shine)

Be a Vendor: Shop Small Biz Street Festival

On Third Avenue, running 20 blocks from 66th St. to 86th St.

The Manhattan Chamber of Commerce's "Shop Small Biz" street fair provides a platform to help entrepreneurs and local small businesses sell their products, which is critical in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The street fair takes place all day. Stroll the avenue and support small

businesses! To obtain a booth at the fair to sell goods or raise awareness about your business, please complete and submit the vendor form manhattancc.org/photos/events/3rd_Ave_vendor_Form.pdf.

LPC Launches Business Express Service

Landmarks Preservation Commission has created a new Business Express Service that will serve as a one-stop shop for business owners in landmark buildings making it easier for them to get their permits. The LPC Business Express Service includes a dedicated hotline and team who will offer pre-application consultation and focused application review to support businesses located in storefronts and other street-level commercial spaces in the City's designated buildings and historic districts, including restaurants, retail stores and offices. Contact the LPC Business Express Team at 646-202-3938 or info@lpc.nyc.gov. Learn more at www1.nyc.gov/site/lpc/applications/lpc-business-express.page.

The U.S. Small Business Administration's advice on how to [Prepare for emergencies](#)



Assess your risk, create a plan, execute your plan. Get financial assistance after a disaster, advice and training, mitigation assistance.

Advice from the U.S. Small Business Administration: [Strengthen your cybersecurity](#)

For buildings

[NYC's Gas Detector Law - Understanding Local Law 157](#)

August 10, 2022, *cooperatornews.com*, by John Rusk, founder of ProSentry, an NYC-based leak detection service company

In 2016, the New York City Council passed a citywide ordinance requiring the installation of natural gas detectors, 180 days after “an industry standard concerning the use of natural gas detecting devices in residential buildings has been promulgated.” In April of this year, the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) published a standard for natural gas detectors (NFPA 715)...When a gas detector alarms, it makes a series of announcements, the first of which is, ‘Danger - gas leak explosion risk. Evacuate, then call 911.’ The NFPA standard provides specifications for two kinds of devices: ‘dumb’ detectors that only alarm locally, instructing residents within earshot of the alarm to call 911, and ‘smart’ detectors that also alert the building’s maintenance team along with first responders, providing the exact location of the alarm and the current level of gas explosion risk...State Senator Leroy Comrie of the 14th Senate District of Queens and Chairman of the Committee on Corporations, Authorities and Commissions has proposed State Law 3705, which would require the use of ‘smart’ gas detectors throughout New York State. The law currently requires a gas leak detection notification to go to the local utility company, but Senator Comrie is consulting with stakeholders about amending his bill to be consistent with the new NFPA and Underwriter’s Laboratory standards, meaning that notifications would go to a licensed and staffed central station which will then notify the building, call 911, and alert the utility company...It’s becoming clear to boards that New York is pushing towards eliminating gas in residential buildings through regulation for both climate and safety reasons; however, utility companies are voicing concerns over the adequacy and reliability of the electrical grid to take up the slack and provide all the necessary energy...Con Ed has already installed its own version of smart connected gas detectors in the basements of 750,000 buildings in New York City to monitor its own pipes. With the published standard by the NFPA, individual apartment gas detectors are now mandated by the city as well—and it’s only a question of time before the Department of Buildings (DOB) will begin enforcement.

Job & training opportunities

Community Board 2 is seeking a new District Manager

Community Board 2 is seeking to hire a new District Manager. View the online job posting at a127-jobs.nyc.gov/psc/nycjobs/EMPLOYEE/HRMS/c/HRS_HRAM_FL.HRS_CG_SEARCH_FL.GBL?Page=HRS_APP_SCHJOB_FL&Action=U& and submit resume to resume@cb2manhattan.org.

Certified Teacher Assistant Training

Have you thought about a career in education? Grow Your Own (GYO) offers training to become an NYS-certified Teacher Assistant. The 6-week program is free for participants, and covers the costs of all mandated screenings, workshops, and tests. Learn about the training program and eligibility requirements at kenchild.org/gyo. If you are interested in applying for the GYO program, please contact Workforce Coordinator Mira Handman (mhandman@kenchild.org) for more information.

COVID-19 updates

COVID-19 is still here

The COVID-19 page on the NYC Department of Health website shows that there are **high** transmission levels of COVID throughout the city (data taken **9/3/2022**) at www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page.

NYC Department of Health recommends the following precautions:

- Wear a high-quality mask in all public indoor settings and around crowds outside.
- Stay up-to-date on [vaccinations](#). Vaccine Finder app vaccinefinder.nyc.gov.
- [Test](#) before and after travel or gatherings, or if you were recently exposed to someone who has COVID-19.
- [Stay home if sick](#).
- Wash or sanitize your hands frequently.

NOTE: CDC also recommends:

- Improving [ventilation](#)

COVID-19: [Prevention and Groups at Higher Risk](#)

In NYC, masks are required in health care facilities, congregate settings, and on public transportation. Proof of vaccination and masks may be required by employers, businesses and nonprofits.

(NEW) The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved a new bivalent COVID-19 booster that protects against both the Omicron variant and the original strain of the virus. Contact your doctor or pharmacist to schedule vaccination appointments. Early information about this booster is that supplies may initially be limited and prioritized for high-risk people. You are eligible for the vaccination if you are 12 years of age for the Pfizer vaccine or 18 years of age for Moderna, if it has been at least two months from your most recent booster or the completion of your primary vaccination series. Look for notifications from your pharmacist and doctor when they have the vaccine available.

Related: CDC Director Rochelle P. Walensky, M.D., M.P.H., endorsed the [CDC Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices' \(ACIP\) recommendations for use of updated COVID-19 boosters](#) from Pfizer-BioNTech for people ages 12 years and older and from Moderna for people ages 18 years and older. Updated COVID-19 boosters add Omicron BA.4 and BA.5 spike protein components to the current vaccine composition, helping to restore protection that has waned since previous vaccination by targeting variants that are more transmissible and immune-evading.

Related: Source: Bloomberg Prognosis email of September 4, 2022, [bloombergbusiness.com](#)

Is it safe for older people to get the new Covid booster this fall? Why hasn't it been tested on humans?

Answer: The US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention signed off on updated versions of both the Pfizer and Modern mRNA vaccines this week, and the shots are expected to roll out any day now...What makes these boosters different from those available in Europe and elsewhere is that they target the latest versions of omicron, called BA.4 and BA.5, which are now causing most of the world's cases. While that sounds like a recipe for success, there is at least one issue that's caused some concern: The revised boosters didn't go through human clinical trials, and were cleared on the basis of animal data. But Jessica Justman, an infectious diseases specialist and epidemiologist at Columbia University's Irving Medical Center, points out that "a very close cousin, more like a sibling, of the updated shot, did actually go through two clinical trials in humans." More than 1,600 people enrolled, most over age 55, in tests of a vaccine that fights an earlier omicron version called BA.1. The trials provided good data on the safety, as well as the efficacy, of the vaccine at several dose levels. Researchers studied a monovalent vaccine that targeted just BA.1 and a bivalent alternative that addresses both BA.1 and the original Wuhan strain that emerged in China. "The safety profile was fine, and the antibody measures for the BA.1 vaccine showed that the boosted antibody levels and antibody function were good," Justman says. While those BA.1 tests were successful, US regulators recommended that vaccine makers change the design of their vaccines to target the ascending BA.4 and BA.5 variants, hoping that would improve the effectiveness of the shots. But they also said vaccine makers wouldn't have to test this new version in humans again in order to obtain authorization, because they expected the results to be similar to the shots for BA.1. That strategy actually isn't all that unusual, Justman points out. Each year "we get a flu shot that has been slightly updated, based on information about closely related versions of the flu virus circulating in other parts of the world," she says. "This is the same approach that was used to authorize the updated version of the Covid vaccine." — Kristen V. Brown

If you were exposed to Covid-19 [What to Do If You Were Exposed to COVID-19 | CDC](#)

If you have symptoms or test positive for Covid-19 [Isolation and Precautions for People with COVID-19 | CDC](#)

Trends

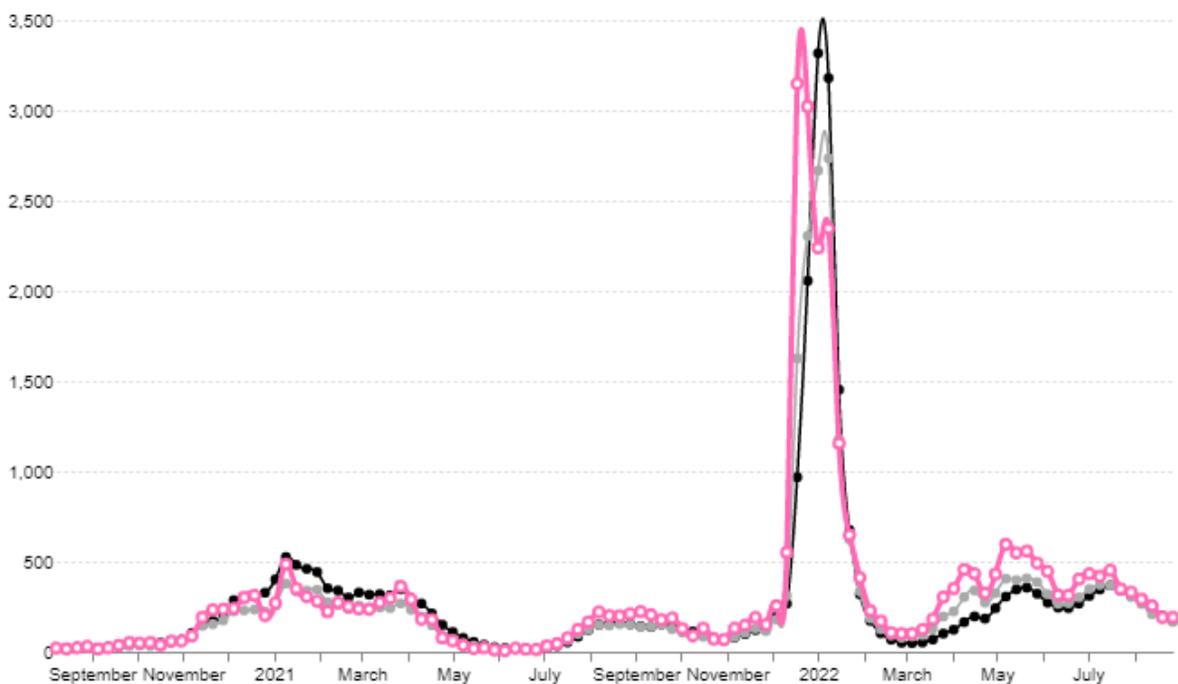
Data taken on 9/3/22 from NYC Department of Health Covid Data page www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-data-neighborhoods.page compares case rates for zip code 10016, Manhattan and NYC. Last data point 8/27/2022.

Trends

These charts compare data for your selected ZIP code to your borough and the city. They show whether the pandemic is getting better, getting worse or staying stable. The virus is considered controlled when neighborhoods have a high test rate, low percent positivity and low case rate.

Case rate Test rate Percent positive

Case rate (per 100,000 people) in 10016, Manhattan, and all of NYC



Therapies

People age 65+ and immunocompromised people are eligible for the new anti-viral pills. If you have COVID symptoms, take a covid test. If you test positive contact your doctor immediately, to request a prescription. The anti-viral Paxlovid pill is most effective when prescribed shortly after symptoms begin, and sharply reduces the chances a COVID illness will become severe. It is prescribed as three

pills taken twice a day for five days. Molnupiravir is taken as four pills twice a day for five days. The pills are available for high-risk adults and must be taken soon after symptoms appear.

Speak with your physician or pharmacist about monoclonal antibody treatments that are effective against the current variants.

At-home rapid covid tests

On September 2, 2022 the free federal COVID-19 At-Home Test Kit Program was suspended.

[Medicare will pay](#) for at-home Coronavirus tests, as many as eight tests per month, under Part B Medicare at participating national pharmacy chains.

Check with your insurance policy and pharmacist to find out if at-home covid tests are covered by your plan.

At-home rapid tests are available at local New York Public Library branches and at many Council Member's offices, while supplies last.

Reach out to **Council Member Keith Powers'** office at 212-818-0580 if you need test kits or if you'd like to co-host a giveaway event (while supplies last).

Free Hotline for those who test positive for COVID-19, but don't have a health care provider

The Hotline, 888-TREAT-NY (888-873-2869) utilizes the Virtual ExpressCare platform operated by NYC Health + Hospitals. It is available 24-hours per day, seven days a week and operated by experienced Health + Hospitals professionals who have the clinical training to prescribe treatment and referrals if needed.

More Covid-19 information for Murray Hill (zip codes 10016, 10017) towards the bottom of this newsletter.

Monkeypox

Monkeypox updates are available on the NYC Department of Health website www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/health/health-topics/monkeypox.page.

As (Jynneos) vaccinations become available, eligible people can schedule appointments at vax4nyc.nyc.gov/patient/s/monkeypox. People can also sign up for alerts on vaccination appointments by texting "MONKEYPOX" to 692-692.

State Senator Brad Hoylman has offered to help if you are having difficulty securing a monkeypox vaccine; contact his office at 212-633-8052 or hoylman@nysenate.gov.

Kids are at low risk for monkeypox, but schools can take precautions, CDC says

August 19, 2022, *chalkbeat.org*, by Kalyn Belsha

In a new [fact sheet](#), the CDC says the risk of getting monkeypox at school or in an early childhood setting is low...Many of the precautions the CDC suggests schools take will sound familiar after two and a half years of following COVID protocols. That includes routinely cleaning and disinfecting classrooms, asking students and staff to regularly wash their hands, and providing personal protective equipment to staff who care for sick students.

NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to offer second-dose appointments for the monkeypox vaccine

Source: News & Events email, NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

The NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene will begin offering second-dose appointments for the monkeypox vaccine on Friday, September 2 at 4pm. Second doses will be available by appointment only, at least 10 weeks after receiving the first dose. More first dose appointments will also be going live at this time. They are expanding vaccine eligibility to sex workers. They will begin accepting walk-ins for first doses at City-run sites starting Friday, September 2, though appointments are still recommended. Learn more at on.nyc.gov/3efcRhH.

Polio

Update on polio in NYC

Email from Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine, August 12, 2022

Today, the New York City and State Departments of Health announced that poliovirus has been detected in wastewater samples in New York City, suggesting local transmission.

Most adults in NYC were vaccinated against polio as children, and do not need to get tested or be vaccinated at this time. The vaccine is 99% effective against paralytic polio (with 3 doses).

It is urgent that everyone who is not vaccinated for polio—especially children—get vaccinated immediately. Adults who have not received all three polio vaccines should also

finish their vaccine series, regardless of how long it's been since their last vaccine. The easiest way to do this is through your regular doctor or pediatrician. If you do not have a doctor, or they do not have a supply of polio vaccine, call 311. You will be connected to a provider in our public hospital system, regardless of insurance, immigration status, or ability to pay. For more information visit the [CDC Polio Vaccination page](#).

People who have polio can spread it to others through their feces on hands or objects. It is important to wash your hands frequently, especially after using the bathroom or changing diapers.

New York State health officials urge unvaccinated New Yorkers to get vaccinated now. [Press release](#), August 12, 2022.

open enrollment extended

Get Covered NYC (New York City's healthcare marketplace)

Enroll on the 15th to get coverage starting on the 1st of the following month. Need health coverage? Join GetCoveredNYC to learn more about how you can enroll in a plan that fits your budget! GetCoveredNYC helps New Yorkers in the five boroughs enroll in health insurance, including low- or no-cost options, under the Affordable Care Act (also known as Obamacare). You may be eligible for free health insurance coverage! You can call 311 or text CoveredNYC (SeguroNYC en Español) to 877877 to be connected to a GetCoveredNYC Specialist. Enrollment page www1.nyc.gov/site/mayorspeu/resources/getcovered-open-enrollment.page.

How you can help / Make your views known

Join a MHNA committee

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association is an all-volunteer organization. We need your help to keep the Association's work going. Volunteering can be for individual events, such as the Street Festival, and also for ongoing activities, such as Membership. Many administrative activities can be done remotely. [Learn more about the different committees](#). If you are interested in joining a committee, please email info@murrayhillnyc.org.

Central Business District Tolling Program (Congestion Pricing)

The public hearings have concluded.

through September 9 (public comment period)

MTA Congestion Pricing hearings

MTA website on the Central Business Tolling Program (Congestion Pricing)
new.mta.info/project/CBDTP.

If the CBD Tolling Program Environmental Assessment is approved by the Federal Highway Administration, vehicles that enter or remain in the Central Business District would be tolled (only once each day). Tolls may range from \$9 - \$23, depending on the scenario. Tolls should be variable, depending on the time or day. Residents of the CBD who earn less than \$60,000 per year get a NY State tax credit for tolls paid. Qualified emergency vehicles and vehicles transporting people with disabilities should not be tolled.

Topic: The Environmental Assessment looking at the environmental impacts of congestion pricing.

Ways to comment

The comment period on the Central Business District (CBD) Tolling Program Environmental Assessment will be open from **August 10 through September 9, 2022**.

Online: mta.info/CBDTP/comment

Email: CBDTP@mtabt.org

Mail: CBD Tolling Program, 2 Broadway, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10004

Phone: 646-252-7440

Fax: 212-504-3148 [Attn: The CBDTP Team]

Send Comments Directly to FHWA

Email: CBDTP@dot.gov

Mail: FHWA - NY Division, RE: CBDTP, Leo W. O'Brien Federal Building, 11A, Clinton Ave, Suite 719, Albany, NY 12207

State Senator Liz Krueger's [testimony about congestion pricing](#), August 30, 2022.

Related: [NJ Gov. Phil Murphy hardens stance against NYC congestion pricing](#)

August 29, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Stephen Nessen

"[I]t's an idea whose time has not come" Murphy said... It's doubtful that any of the public comments would prevent the long-planned program from being implemented entirely. But the MTA is considering seven different tolling options, which haven't yet been finalized.

Below is a list of the actions the Murray Hill Neighborhood Association has taken in response to congestion pricing plans and proposals. We are also continuing to ask for feedback from members via our weekly eblasts, are monitoring the situation, and having continued dialogue with officials.

- survey to members (individuals and businesses), [results are posted on the MHNA website](#)
- survey results sent to all state and city officials
- keeping members and people on the MHNA email list informed of public meetings and how to comment
- met with state and city officials to discuss the needs of the neighborhood
- met, again with state and city officials. along with Turtle Bay and Sutton Place
- strongly noted that issues existed and needed to be reviewed
- recommended an exemption for residents (especially those that garage their cars or are over 55)
- [77WABC radio interview](#) with Early News anchor Deb Valentine, aired on 8/25/22, Scroll down to the date in Early News Podcast and look for Nancy Sheran.

Related: [NYC cab drivers squeezed out by congestion pricing can become bus drivers, MTA says](#)

August 21, 2022, *nypost.com*, by David Meyer

Several pricing schemes under consideration for the congestion tolls would dent revenues in the immigrant-dominated for-hire industry, according to the MTA’s preliminary environmental review released earlier this month...To plug the hole that might blow in driver wages, transit officials promised to “connect drivers experiencing job insecurity with a direct pathway to licensing, training and job placement with MTA or its affiliated vendors at no cost to the drivers.”...But industry hacks have already paid a \$2.75-per-ride congestion charge since 2019 – and want to be exempted from the new fees entirely...Officials believe cabbies would be put out of work under scenarios in which they are charged more than once per day. For the environmental review, the MTA studied exempting taxi cabs from the toll entirely, but did not study scenarios in which app-based for-hire vehicles or black car liveries would be exempted...Former Taxi and Limousine Commission Chair Matt Daus said cabs are in a league of their own from other vehicles – and should be treated as such.

September 19 (application deadline)

ACES is recruiting Volunteer Public Benefit Counselors

The Advocacy, Counseling and Entitlement Services (ACES) Project of the Community Service Society is recruiting retired individuals age 55 years or older to serve as volunteer public benefit counselors dedicated to helping financially disadvantaged people. ACES volunteers screen clients for eligibility and assist with completing applications for public benefits. Volunteers must attend a training that begins October 4, 2022 and will be held through webinars. Upon completion, they are placed in agencies in one of the five boroughs to provide information on government benefits to low-income families, older adults, and individuals with disabilities. There are options for in person or remote volunteer assignments. A personal interview, successful completion of the training, and a commitment of six hours per week for one year of volunteer service is required. Applicants must have advocacy, research, and computer skills, in addition to an interest in assisting low-income populations and learning about public benefit programs. No prior benefit experience is required. Your participation in this program gives you a chance to help others in a truly significant way. For more information, please contact Rebecca Haase at 212-614-5482. To apply or for more information, go to: The ACES Project | Community Service Society of New York at cssny.org. **Apply by September 19.**

The FTC invites you to comment on commercial surveillance and data security

August 16, 2022, *consumer.ftc.gov*, by Seena Gressin

Companies are able to collect enormous amounts of personal data about virtually every conceivable aspect of our lives, often in ways that we might not expect or understand. The FTC [Federal Trade Commission] calls this “commercial surveillance,” and it’s the subject of the Commission’s newly announced [Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#). In this Notice, the FTC

[asks for your comments](#) about data practices that you might believe are unfair or deceptive, and how the FTC can best address those practices.

**September 8 2 – 7:30pm
(virtual) Public Forum**

The Commission is hosting a public forum on commercial surveillance and data security. Members of the public are invited to attend. Learn more on the [Commercial Surveillance and Data Security Public Forum page](#).

Submit a Comment

The Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking asks a series of questions about practices related to commercial surveillance and data security. The topic areas and the questions can be seen on the [Commercial Surveillance and Data Security Rulemaking page](#). Anyone from the public can submit a comment weighing in on the rulemaking, the general topics, or a specific question. The link to submit comments to the Federal Register on Regulations.gov will be posted as soon as it is available.

Ukraine aid

[New York State website with information about resources and aid for Ukrainians](#)

State Department program *Uniting for Ukraine*

To help fulfill President Biden's promise to temporarily resettle 100,000 Ukrainian refugees, the State Department has established Uniting for Ukraine, in which legal residents of the United States can apply to be sponsors of migrants under a process called Humanitarian Parole. Learn more at uscis.gov/forms/explore-my-options/humanitarian-parole. Welcome.US, a humanitarian group for refugee resettlement, has created a [guide to the process](#) (and offers a [mailing list](#)) for people interested in becoming a sponsor. "Sponsors may apply as individuals, as a group, or as a representative of a non-governmental agency. The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) lists the [eligibility requirements](#) and the [instructions](#) for completing [Form I-134](#) (the Declaration of Financial Support).

[Source: Council Member Gale Brewer's Update email of 4/28/2022]

Ukrainians in the U.S. since March 1 are eligible for Temporary Protective Status (TPS) for an 18 month period. CUNY's Citizenship Now project is ready to help the Ukrainian community apply for this benefit. Call 646-664-6400.



FEDERAL TRADE
COMMISSION

Donating to help people in Ukraine?

Check out the group or person before sending money — by cryptocurrency or any other payment method.

Start here: ftc.gov/charity



Upcoming events



through October 31

Gallery35 exhibit *Figurative * Abstract* opened on September 1

For their 2022/2023 season, Gallery35 is excited to present a series focusing on CONTRAST in art. The first exhibit, *FIGURATIVE • ABSTRACT*, features art on the continuum from realism through pure form. Recognizing that even the most figurative art contains some abstraction, we see each artwork as an expression of a unique distillation of reality and an artistic vision of the world. The exhibit features work that represents reality, abstracts reality in varying degrees, has no relation to reality, or contains the contrast itself. View the exhibit at gallery35nyc.com/2022/09/01/gallery35-launches-a-theme-for-2022-2023. This online exhibit is FREE and open to the public.

Gallery35

24 East 35th Street (offices only)

917-566-0708

gallery35ny@gmail.com

September 6 – October 14

Tuesdays 8 - 9am

Thursdays & Fridays 5 - 6pm

[Bryant Park Fall Birding Tours](#)

Join Gabriel Willow from NYC Audubon on birding tours in Bryant Park, one of the best places in Manhattan to spot birds during their migratory season. Birding Tours are perfect for both experienced avian seekers and newcomers.

Meet at Heiskell Plaza, near the corner of Sixth Avenue and 42nd Street.

tickets now on sale

NYC Broadway Week - September 6 – 25

2-for-1 tickets. Browse the shows at nycgo.com/broadway-week.

ongoing, next Manhattan sessions:

[September 6 2 - 3:30pm](#) (live Q&A session)

[September 14 2 - 3:30pm](#) (Industry meeting)

Department of Buildings hosts live bi-weekly Q&A session and industry meetings (Manhattan)

Live Q&A Sessions - Bi-weekly online Q&A Session for property owners, registered design professionals, filing representatives and other licensees/registrants provides a space for attendees to ask job specific questions for filings in DOB NOW, the Buildings Information System (BIS), or general questions about permits, Construction Codes, Zoning Regulations, sign offs, certificates of occupancy, place of assembly, equipment installations, violations and civil penalties, etc.

Monthly Industry Meetings – a monthly online, borough-specific industry session for registered design professionals to discuss policy and business process questions that are not job specific. The meetings will also include a review of recent updates and policy decisions. See the above link for the schedule.

Learn more, register and see the schedule of upcoming sessions at

www1.nyc.gov/site/buildings/dob/upcoming-events.page.

Tuesdays 4 - 7:00pm

[Buildings After Hours](#)

Department of Buildings offices will be open every Tuesday evening from 4 – 7pm for homeowners, tenants, small business owners, and building managers. During this time, homeowners, tenants, small business owners and building managers are encouraged to visit their local borough office where DOB staff can answer questions and provide needed information. Please continue to use [DOB NOW](#) and [eFiling](#) for all applicable online services. DOB Manhattan office is at 280 Broadway. No appointment needed. Learn more.

(virtual) Community Board 6 meeting: Environment & Parks Committee

Agenda: Report from the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation, discussion of opportunities for new publicly accessible greenspace in Manhattan Community District 6, proposed Fiscal Year 2024 budget requests, and more. You can join the meeting by registering at us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zlRqloycTTeKBne75yQ2PQ.

September 7 10am

(virtual & in person) Public Hearing: New York City Council Committee on Aging— [Improving Older New Yorkers' Access to City Services](#)

(in person) at 250 Broadway (fully accessible)

Committee Room, 16th Floor

Agenda:

T2022-1911 Oversight: Improving Older New Yorkers' Access to City Services. Additionally, the Committee on Aging will hear the following legislation.

T2022-1650 (Council Member Hudson), A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to promoting housing stability for seniors by entitling any person who is 60 years of age or older to full legal representation in eviction or termination of tenancy proceedings in housing court, expanding rental arrears assistance for persons 60 years of age or older and establishing a housing support program for persons 60 years of age or older who are at risk of eviction or foreclosure (*preconsidered*)

T2022-1538 (Council Member Hudson), A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring a know your rights pamphlet for older adults (*preconsidered*)

T2022-1696 (Council Members Hudson, Lee and Schulman), A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to diversity programming at senior centers (*preconsidered*)

If you are planning on testifying live in person or via video conferencing, please register in advance of the hearing at council.nyc.gov/testify. Each person who intends to testify live via Zoom should register separately. If you plan to testify in person, it would be greatly appreciated if you could bring twenty (20) copies double-sided of your written testimony to the hearing. Written testimony may be submitted without registration by emailing it to testimony@council.nyc.gov or via the Council's website at council.nyc.gov/testify up to 72 hours after the close of the hearing.

For questions about accessibility or to request additional accommodations, please contact Nicole Benjamin (NBenjamin@council.nyc.gov or 212-482-5176) at least 72 hours before the hearing. All other questions about the hearing can be directed to Christopher Pepe (CPepe@council.nyc.gov) or Chloë Rivera (CRivera@council.nyc.gov).

September 7 12 – 2pm

NYPL Open House: New York: Center of Fashion

End times are approximate. Events may end early or late. As a boundless resource to the fashion industry based in this city, The New York Public Library's collections include an incomparable printed record of New York as one of the fashion centers of the world. This Open House will display

fashion archives, pictures, publications, and many magazines to dramatize how the Library has collected the story of fashion, particularly that which is designed, written about, photographed, sold, and manufactured in this city. Learn more at nypl.org/events/programs/2022/09/07/new-york-center-fashion.

at Stephen A. Schwarzman Building

Lenox & Astor Room, Room 216

476 5th Avenue (entrances on Fifth Avenue at 41st Street and accessible entrance at 42nd Street between 5th & 6th Avenue)

September 7 2 – 3:30pm

(virtual) Green Infrastructure Grant Program Summer Workshop

Hosted by the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP). Attendees will learn about funding available for green roof retrofits on private property, eligibility requirements, and how to apply. To learn more about the Green Infrastructure Grant Program, visit nyc.gov/dep/gigrantprogram.

Register at eventbrite.com/e/green-infrastructure-grant-program-summer-workshop-september-7-2022-tickets-400334921527. There will be another workshop in December.

September 7 2 – 4pm

(in person) NYPL Reel to Read Movies: *Raging Bull* (1980)

(free) Running time 129 minutes. End times are approximate. Robert De Niro won a Best Actor Oscar as boxing champion Jake LaMotta, whose inner demons lead him to destroy the relationships he has with his brother and his second wife. Directed by Martin Scorsese. Starring Robert De Niro, Cathy Moriarty, and Joe Pesci. The New York Public Library's Reel to Read is a curated series of independent and classic cinema, hand-picked by librarians, local authors, and film experts, and include a Recommended Reads list based on the movie. Programs are subject to change or cancellation. Assistive Listening and ASL. ASL interpretation and real-time (CART) captioning available upon request. Please submit your request by emailing accessibility@nypl.org. Fully accessible to wheelchairs. Registration required at nypl.org/events/programs/2022/09/07/reel-read-movies-raging-bull-1980.

at Stavros Niarchos Foundation Library (SNFL)

Room 303

455 Fifth Avenue (40th Street)

212-340-0863

September 7 6 - 7pm (doors 5:30pm)

(in person & virtual) Book talk: *Time Shelter*: Georgi Gospodinov with Valentina Izmirlieva

The award-winning Bulgarian writer discusses his novel about memory loss, time, and what happens when the past and present collide. Georgi Gospodinov researched and wrote *Time Shelter* during his 2017–2018 Fellowship at the Library’s Dorothy and Lewis B. Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers. He will discuss the novel with scholar and writer Valentina Izmirlieva. Presented by the New York Public Library. Learn more and register at showclix.com/event/Gospodinov.

Stephen A. Schwarzman Building

Margaret Liebman Berger Forum (2nd Fl)

476 5th Avenue (entrances on Fifth Avenue at 41st Street and accessible entrance at 42nd Street between 5th & 6th Avenue)



IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES

Federal, state, and judicial offices will be on the ballot, and NYC voters will also be able to vote on four ballot proposals.

New York City Board of Elections website vote.nyc

New York State Board of Elections website elections.ny.gov

Check your voter registration status at vote.nyc/page/am-i-registered or call 1-866-868-3692. It is a best practice to check your voter registration status before every election. You will also get a list of the early voting sites and hours and can generate a sample ballot (closer to the election date).

Register to vote (Voter Registration Form) at vote.nyc/page/register-vote. This form is also used to change your address or party affiliation.

Request Absentee Ballot vote.nyc/page/absentee-voting-0

Political calendar from the state Board of Elections
elections.ny.gov/NYSBOE/law/2022PoliticalCalendar.pdf

NY State BOE Voting Deadlines calendar elections.ny.gov/VotingDeadlines.html.

October 14	Deadline for voter registration for General Election
October 18	Deadline for change of address for General Election
October 24	Deadline to request Absentee Ballot
October 29 - November 6	Early Voting
November 8	General Election

Ballot proposals. You are invited to comment on them for the upcoming official *NYC Voter Guide*. Learn more at nycvotes.org/get-involved/ballot-proposal-comments.

September 8

First day of school (NYC public schools)

Learn more at schools.nyc.gov/school-year/school-year-2022-23.

Back to school checklist schools.nyc.gov/school-year/school-year-2022-23/back-to-school-checklist.

through September 8

Pershing Square Sounds

Free lunchtime and happy hour concerts

Thursday, September 8 (4:30pm to 6pm) A Latin Movement, Latin Jazz, Salsa

[See the full lineup.](#)

in Pershing Square Plaza West

Park Avenue (between 41st & 42nd Street)

September 9 11am – 2pm

Jemmy's Dog Run Reopening Celebration

Madison Square Park Conservancy officially celebrates its reopening with an afternoon of festivities. The program will begin with a ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring new Executive Director Holly Leicht, and be followed by a day of activities and giveaways from our local partners.

at Madison Square Park – Jemmy's Dog Run

26th Street & 5th Avenue side

**through September 9 (Monday to Friday 11:30am - 7:30pm / Saturdays 10:30am - 1:30pm)
(in person, free) Exhibit at Instituto Cervantes: Language in the Street. 400
years of linguistic landscape.**

We walk around the city talking, and without realizing it, we never stop reading. This exhibition recovers a part of the writing that was visible in the Spanish streets from 1500 to 1900.

Advertisements, posters and banners formed the linguistic landscape seen everywhere in a mostly literate society. To sell, to offend, to entertain, to regulate or subvert regulation were some of the reasons that the street became text. When a community has a written culture, it always overflows the private sphere and can be seen in the public space as an expression of power and of counter-power.

at Instituto Cervantes New York
211 East 49th Street (between 2nd & 3rd Avenue, enter through the landmark Amster Yard)
Tel.: 212-308-7720
nyork.cervantes.es/en

September 10 & 17 11am – 12pm

Bryant Park Art Cart

Weekend Workshops. For three consecutive Saturdays in September Art Cart hosts a series of free workshops with Ashcan Studio of Art. All ages are welcome at this workshop. Topics cover everything from kite making to portrait drawing. Free equipment is provided. Check in with the host for more info. Materials are provided but space is limited so please register in advance. The complete schedule is available on the website at eventbrite.com/e/art-cart-workshop-peace-kites-tickets-408962205967.

The Art Cart is located on the north end of the New York Public Library's Fifth Avenue Terrace (near 42nd Street)

The Morgan Library & Museum

225 Madison Avenue (between 36th & 37th Street)
212-685-0008

themorgan.org

Timed admissions. Proof of vaccination required for visitors age 5 and older. Purchase tickets at themorgan.org / Morgan Library members free and no reservations required. Fridays free from 5 – 7pm. [Reservations required](#). See the [MHNA Merchants Discount page](#) for details about discounts to Morgan Library events and membership.

The Morgan Library's redesigned garden is open

Visitors to the Morgan will be able to see the garden and exterior of the buildings. Tours at 12pm, except for Fridays and Saturdays, when the garden is open to the public.



Drawing by Rick Barton (detail)

through September 11

Writing a Chrysanthemum: The Drawings of Rick Barton

Very little is known about Rick Barton (1928–1992), who, between 1958 and 1962, created hundreds of drawings of striking originality. His subjects range from the intimacy of his room to the architecture of Mexican cathedrals, and from the gathering places of Beat-era San Francisco to the sinuous contours of plants. Drawing almost exclusively in pen or brush and ink, he captured his subjects in a web of line that was sometimes simple and economical, but more often complex and kaleidoscopic. With the exception of small displays in cafés and bookshops in the 1950s and '60s, this exhibition of sixty drawings, two accordion-fold sketchbooks, and five printed works, is the first time Barton's art is being seen by the public. Learn more at themorgan.org/exhibitions/rick-barton.

September 12 6:30pm

Community Board 6 meeting: Budget & Governmental Affairs Committee

Public Hearing on the Community District 6 Needs Statement and Budget Requests for Fiscal Year 2024 and discussion of the Fiscal Year 2024 budget requests and District Needs Statement.

Register at us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3hBPRYtPTlu9MGo0LcxiDg.

Mondays September 12 – November 7 6:30pm

(virtual free course) A Theory of Economic Justice—What does prosperity have to do with economic justice?

When natural opportunities become scarce, a rule for allocating them becomes necessary. The instructor, Nicolaus Tideman is a Professor of Economics at Virginia Tech. From 1969 to 1973 he was Assistant Professor of Economics at Harvard University. In 1970-71 he served as Senior Staff Economist at the President's Council of Economic Advisors. He has also served as a consultant at the Bureau of the Budget (predecessor to the Office of Management and Budget) and at the Office of Tax Analysis in the Department of the Treasury. He has published over 100 professional articles and the book, *Collective Decisions and Voting: The Potential for Public Choice*. Register at hgsss.org/a-theory-of-economic-justice. Henry George School of Social Science, 149 East 38th Street, 212-889-8020, info@hgsss.org, hgsss.org.

September 13 – November 1 (Tuesdays) 12:30 – 1pm

Church of the Transfiguration Midday Organ Recitals

(Suggested donation \$6) For information contact Claudia Dumschat CDumschat@littlechurch.org.

September 13 Melissa Munoz, trumpet and Claudia Dumschat, organ. Program: *Fasch Trumpet Concerto in D, Locklair Trumpets of Light*

September 20 Claudia Dumschat. Program: Bach *Passacaglia and Fugue in C Minor*, BWV 582, Harbach *The Morning Trumpet*

at Church of the Transfiguration / Little Church Around the Corner

1 East 29th Street

(between Madison and Fifth Avenue)

littlechurch.org

September 14

What's New, What's Next 2022

For designers, architects, contractors, dealers, industry professionals and consumers. Join 200 Lex / New York Design Center for a showcase of new ideas, design, materials, and products. 95 showrooms, 120 ambassadors. Register and create an account at wnwn.nydc.com/register.
at New York Design Center / 200 Lex
200 Lexington Avenue (between 32nd & 33rd Street)
212-679-9500

September 15 (final vote)

NYC Council Redistricting Commission

The public hearings have concluded. According to their announcement, the commission will take a final vote September 15 and submit their plan to the City Council by September 22. Background: The New York City Districting Commission is charged with redistricting the fifty-one City Council districts according to the 2020 Census and other criteria mandated by the New York City Charter. [Learn more about redistricting](#). The commission released draft maps on July 15, and they are available for public review online at nyc.gov/districting. The preliminary plan is available online at www1.nyc.gov/site/districting/maps/maps.page. The Redistricting Commission has provided a tool so that you can submit your own maps and can view other submissions on their website Public Gallery (tap the DistrictR link on this page www1.nyc.gov/site/districting/public-meetings-hearings/meetings.page). [Map ID 136363 \(July 28\)](#), for example, keeps Murray Hill, Kips Bay and Turtle Bay together. **Individuals wishing to submit written testimony may do so at PublicTestimony@redistricting.nyc.gov**. When drawing your own maps, population for each district should be approximately 172,882, the borders should be “compact,” and ideally should not cross into other boroughs. Email NYCRedistricting@redistricting.nyc.gov.

State Senator Liz Krueger’s testimony regarding NYC Council Redistricting

nysenate.gov/newsroom/articles/2022/liz-krueger/sen-krueger-submits-testimony-nyc-districting-commission, August 22, 2022.

Community Board 6 passed a resolution and testified at the Districting Commission's August 22nd hearing

Board Chair Kyle Athayde testified on behalf of CB6.
[Resolution](#)

September 15 6pm

(virtual & in person) Talk: The Restoration of Tudor City

The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York and The New York Landmarks Conservancy present a talk with Oswald L. Bertolini, AIA, Principal, and colleagues from Bertolini Architectural Works, including: Eric Vonderhyde, Principal; Ryan Hopewell, Associate Principal; and Carlos Honorio, Jr., AIA, Associate Principal. Tudor City is an apartment complex located on Manhattan's East 40's, situated on a low cliff. Originally constructed between 1925 to 1928, it was the first residential skyscraper complex in the world. It was also one of the largest, and most important examples of a planned middle-class residential community in New York City. It is famous for its castle-like apartment buildings in the Tudor revival style that was designed by architects Fred French and H. Douglas Ives. Tickets are \$5, \$10, \$15.

In-Person reservation [eventbrite.com/e/the-restoration-of-manhattans-tudor-city-in-person-tickets-412390590357](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-restoration-of-manhattans-tudor-city-in-person-tickets-412390590357) Masks are recommended for in-person attendance.

Online reservation [eventbrite.com/e/the-restoration-of-manhattans-tudor-city-online-tickets-412409446757](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-restoration-of-manhattans-tudor-city-online-tickets-412409446757)

The General Society of Mechanics & Tradesmen of the City of New York
20 West 44th Street (between 5th & 6th Avenue)
generalsociety.org

through September 17 7 – 8:30pm (Lawn opens at 5pm)

The 2022 season of Picnic Performances at Bryant Park presented by Bank of America

(free) All performances are free to the public and designed to be enjoyed casually – no tickets required—with seating available and free picnic blankets for audience members to borrow.

Attendees may bring their own food or purchase from on-site food and beverage vendors near the Lawn.

September 8 Steinway Artists Aaron Diehl + Orrin Evans

September 9 Jazz at Lincoln center: Summer Camargo Sextet

September 16 Accordion Festival

September 17 American Symphony Orchestra

Learn more and see the full lineup at bryantpark.org/series/bryant-park-picnics.
at Bryant Park

(between 40th & 42nd Street, and between 5th & 6th Avenue, behind the Library)



September 24 10am – 12pm

[Walking Tour of Historic Murray Hill](#)

Come walk around Historic Murray Hill with a knowledgeable guide and learn about its many historic landmarks, including the Union League Club, The Morgan Library, the Polish Consulate and many others. The tour also features information about the architects who designed them, including C.P.H. Gilbert, Stanford White, Emery Roth, Fred French and others. Hear about the notable people who once called this neighborhood home, including Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt, J.P. Morgan and others. Find out how Mary Murray distracted the British General Howe to allow the American army to escape during the American Revolution. Tour guide will focus on the unique architectural qualities of the buildings as well as the historic evolution of the neighborhood and its preservation as a residential oasis in Midtown Manhattan. The tour covers the area from Madison to Third Avenue and 34th to 38th Street, and is both educational and entertaining. You will walk away with a new appreciation of this very special neighborhood. Your tour guide will be Laurie Sexton. The MHNA follows NYC Covid guidance. Masks are recommended when viewing indoor landmarks. The walking tour program is organized by The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association's Preservation & Design Committee. Funds collected for this program are used to support Murray Hill preservation. Tickets \$10 MHNA members/\$20 general public. [Reserve your spot now](#), there will be a maximum of 10 people on this tour.

Meet at 37th Street & Park Avenue
(45 Park Avenue)

through September 26

[Applications to run Marijuana Dispensaries open](#)

Learn more at Office of Cannabis Management: Conditional Adult-Use Retail Dispensaries (CAURD) cannabis.ny.gov/caurd. The Cannabis Control Board approved the final rules and regulations for the CAURD licensing program last month. Learn more about the [Cannabis Management Seeding Opportunity Initiative](#).



Murray Hill

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

September 29

The Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Annual General Meeting

Look for more information in future emails.



Murray Hill

NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

October 15 (Save the date!)

The 2022 Murray Hill Neighborhood Association Street Festival

After a two year pause, we are excited to celebrate Murray Hill with our annual festival along Park Avenue. The most exciting addition to this year's Street Festival will be The Zoo on Park Avenue—colorful polygonal animal sculptures by artist Idriss B. along the Park Avenue Mall. We encourage our neighbors and all city residents to come meet the animals, take photos, and tag us on Instagram @mhnanyc!

We will also feature many of the traditional tents and activities that make our Street Festival stand out—including the book sale, bake sale, flea market, and silent auction. Please email Ashley Petrylak at info@murrayhillnyc.org if you are interested in renting space or volunteering! on Park Avenue (west side) between 34th and 40th Streets.

Schools and students

[State Department of Health Releases New Guidance for K-12 Schools](#)

Governor's press release, August 22, 2022

Quarantine No Longer Required for Students Exposed to COVID-19

[Updated Guidance and FAQs](#)

[It's back-to-school time! NYC Health & Hospitals Tips for a healthy school year](#)

General Vaccinations: All students two months to 18 years must be vaccinated to attend child care or school in New York City. Common vaccines for school-aged children could include meningitis, Tdap (Tetanus, Diphtheria, and Pertussis), measles, mumps, rubella, polio, chicken pox, and HPV. Learn more.

Flu Shots: Flu vaccination is recommended every year for everyone over 6 months of age. Flu season changes every year and can start as early as November.

COVID-19 Vaccine or Booster: The COVID-19 vaccine and booster are safe and good ways to protect children and their communities from COVID-19.

[Fact Sheet: Back to School 2022: Giving Every School the Tools to Prevent COVID-19 Spread and Stay Safely Open All Year Long](#)

August 16, 2022, White House press release

- Using COVID-19 vaccines and boosters as the first line of defense to protect in-person learning
 - The Administration is once again calling on all school districts to host at least one school-located vaccine clinic at the start of the school year, and it is providing resources to help schools do so
 - Encouraging children to catch up on routine childhood vaccines
 - Providing robust access to COVID-19 testing at schools to help detect infection early
 - Providing free access to COVID-19 tests: The Administration will extend the efforts it launched last January in making millions of COVID-19 tests freely available to schools each month
 - Expanding access to COVID-19 testing to child care and early learning programs...Improving indoor air quality across America's school buildings
 - Helping schools plan and implement indoor air quality improvements, including through use of federal funds.
-

[NYC schools lays out plan to enroll hundreds of asylum-seeking students](#)

August 19, 2022, *ny.chalkbeat.org*, by Reema Amin

At least 1,000 new students are expected to enroll in district schools, including preschool-aged children. However, that figure is “fluid” and will continue to change, said education department spokesperson Nathaniel Styer. Many of these students may need extra support, such as legally mandated services for children learning English as a new language...Enrollment has declined across the city, meaning there could be enough seats available across many different types of schools.

Chalkbeat is conducting a survey on air conditioning in NYC public schools

[NYC officials say classrooms are air conditioned. Help us investigate.](#)

August 30, 2022, *ny.chalkbeat.org*, by Alex Zimmerman

Policing & police reform

Weekly crime reports

17th precinct

www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime_statistics/cs-en-us-017pct.pdf

13th Precinct

www1.nyc.gov/assets/nypd/downloads/pdf/crime_statistics/cs-en-us-013pct.pdf

[These are the new NY gun laws taking effect this week](#)

August 31, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Jon Campbell

[G]un owners will not be allowed to carry their firearms into a wide swath of facilities designated as “sensitive” locations in New York...The bulk of the state’s recently passed Concealed Carry Improvement Act takes effect...implementing a series of more-extensive requirements to obtain a permit to legally carry a weapon in public...the new state law will severely restrict where they can carry a weapon, banning them in dozens of places...(There are exceptions for law enforcement and military personnel, according to the law.)... the state’s pistol permitting process, with new applicants required to undergo a new training regimen – which includes 16 hours in a classroom and two hours of live firing – and to identify all of their social media accounts from the last three years. Those new requirements will also apply to permit holders renewing their licenses in New York City, Westchester and on Long Island, where concealed carry permits expire every three years... Under the law, firearms are presumed to be prohibited in privately owned businesses and spaces unless the owner proactively puts a sign at the entrance saying guns are allowed on premises... Another part of the new law will take effect on Sunday, requiring anyone in New York acquiring a semi-automatic rifle after that date to apply for a license. That will have the effect of raising the minimum age to purchase such a gun from 18 to 21. (New York City had already required a license for all rifles and shotguns, even before the new state law.)...The state will also create a new appeals board to hear challenges from those who see their gun permit applications denied...The New York State Rifle and Pistol Association – the lead plaintiff in the Supreme Court decision that invalidated the state’s prior law – has also signaled plans to sue...The full list of “sensitive places” where all guns will be banned as of Thursday is as follows, according to the new state law:

- Any location owned or under control of federal, state, or local government for the purpose of government administration, including courts;
 - Any location providing health, behavioral health, or chemical dependence care or services;
 - Places of worship or religious observation;
 - Libraries, public playgrounds, public parks, and zoos;
 - NYS Office of Children and Family Service licensed or funded facilities (childcare facilities);
 - Nursery schools, preschools, summer camps;
 - NYS Office for People with Developmental Disabilities licensed or funded facilities;
 - NYS Office of Addiction Services and Supports licensed or funded facilities;
-

- NYS Office of Mental Health licensed or funded facilities;
- NYS Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance licensed or funded facilities;
- Homeless shelters, family shelters, domestic violence shelters;
- NYS Department of Health licensed or funded residential facilities;
- Colleges, universities, private schools, public schools, and other educational institutions;
- Public transportation and transit facilities;
- Bars and restaurants serving alcohol, and on-premises cannabis consumption locations;
- Theaters, stadiums, racetracks, museums, amusement parks, performance venues, concert halls, exhibit halls, conference centers, banquet halls, gaming facilities, video lottery terminal facilities as licensed by the gaming commission;
- Polling places; Issued August 27, 2022
- Public sidewalks and other public areas that are restricted from general public access for a limited time or special event;
- Gatherings of people to collectively express their constitutional rights to assemble or protest;
- Times Square, as defined by the city.

Related: Manhattan D.A. [Alvin Bragg has released a FAQ on the new gun laws](#) enacted by Albany in the aftermath of the Supreme Court’s Bruen decision.

Related: new city website [Gun Safety in New York State](#). Educating New Yorkers about the State's gun laws.

Related: [Governor Hochul Announces New Concealed Carry Laws Passed in Response to Reckless Supreme Court Decision Take Effect September 1, 2022](#)

August 31, 2022, Press release

Related: [New York's concealed carry law can go forward, but court calls it unconstitutional](#)

September 1, 2022, *nystateofpolitics.com*, by Nick Reisman

U.S. District Court Judge Glenn Suddaby denied an injunction against the law taking effect in a Wednesday ruling, essentially determining the defendants in the case, which included the advocacy organization Gun Owners of America, lacked proper standing...But Suddaby at the same time concluded New York’s law—which includes a range of stipulations for being able to receive a concealed carry license such as a determination of moral standing and character references—was in violation of the Second Amendment.

Related: (Source: Council Member Erik Bottcher’s email, *About the new gun law going into effect today*, September 1, 2022) Council Member Erik Bottcher (Council District 3) [spoke to CBS News about this ruling](#)...He is a co-sponsor of City Council legislation introduced by Speaker Adrienne Adams that sets the parameters for the “gun-free zone” surrounding Times Square. This would include the area between Eighth and Sixth Avenues from West 40th to West 53rd Streets, and a second adjoining section between Eighth and Ninth Avenues from West 40th to West 48th Streets.

[NYC Comptroller Lander, Public Advocate Williams, Council Member Rivera Recognize Improvements, Call Out Solitary Confinement Conditions Following Surprise Inspection of Rikers](#)

August 29, 2022, Press release

"Despite the fact that the average cost for a night at Rikers is more than that of a five-star hotel, the conditions of people detained raise human rights alarm bells...more than half the population at Rikers has some mental health needs... Public Advocate Jumaane D. Williams [said] "On our unannounced inspection today we saw marked improvements from the most horrific conditions of a year ago. At the same time, when twelve people have lost their lives in custody already this year, the reform plans in place have not moved fast enough to confront deep systemic issues. Truly ending solitary confinement, decreasing the amount of time New Yorkers await trial on the island, and safe staffing must be prioritized...Last week, Comptroller Lander released a public oversight and accountability [dashboard](#) to provide detailed, timely metrics to assess progress on addressing ongoing safety and operational issues at the Department of Correction (DOC), including staff absenteeism, rates of violence, and the rising incarcerated population

[Cannabis Crackdown Accompanies Legal Weed License Program: NYC Mayor](#)

August 22, 2022, *patch.com*, by Matt Troutman

"We can't have local bodegas selling these products," the mayor said. "You can never have a legal market with an illegal (one) ... They can't go together." Adams' promise of an illegal weed sales crackdown came with the unveiling of "NYC Cannabis," a new city program to support marijuana entrepreneurs and workers...The initiative will offer help for New Yorkers who seek cannabis licenses – for which applications go live on Thursday – to sell adult-use marijuana. New York State regulates the licensing program, not the city, and states in an FAQ document that any business can apply for a cannabis retail license as long as a stakeholder is justice-involved. [Learn more about licensing at the official NYS Cannabis website cannabis.ny.gov.]

Housing, zoning, preservation & affordability

September 20 (deadline for applications)

Waiting List is now open for Henry Phipps Plaza South, Kips Bay, Manhattan

Henry Phipps Plaza South, located in the Kips Bay area of Manhattan, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for the studio, one, two, three, and four-bedroom apartments for the waiting list. Interested parties can complete an application online at: waitlistcheck.com/NY3141-3915. If you have a disability and need assistance with the application process or to request a paper application, please contact Phipps Rentals at 646-388-8227. Paper

applications must be mailed to 2 East 28th Street, PMB 428, New York, NY 10016, and must be postmarked by September 20, 2022. Duplicate applications will not be accepted. Qualifications will be based on Section-8 and Low-income Housing Tax credits, federal guidelines and additional selection criteria. Please note that applications will be selected via a lottery and placed on the waiting list. Applicants will be interviewed based on the future availability of vacant units. Learn more at [cbsix.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Phipps_Henry_Phipps_South_Ad-to-Distribute-Updated-6.8.22.pdf](https://www.cbsix.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Phipps_Henry_Phipps_South_Ad-to-Distribute-Updated-6.8.22.pdf).

NYCRules: [Rent Guidelines](#) for October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023
Adopted Rule Full Text rules.cityofnewyork.us/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/RGB-Orders-and-Explanatory-Statements-2022-City-Rules-OPsv1-1.pdf.

[How NYC landlords continue to use a rent law loophole to spike regulated rents](#)

August 22, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Chau Lam

More than three years after New York lawmakers sharply restricted landlords' ability to hike rents in regulated apartments, some property owners are using a gray area in the law to combine units and dramatically jack up the rents. The state agency charged with overseeing roughly 1 million rent-regulated apartments in New York knew about the loophole as early as February 2020 and said it would be addressed that spring. But more than two years later, nothing has been done to stop the practice...Rent controlled apartments, which normally come with below market-rate rents, apply to certain residents who moved into their homes prior to July 1971 in buildings mostly constructed before World War II. The residence can also be passed down to certain heirs...Prior to the 2019 Housing Stability and Tenant Protection Act, landlords had an array of tools available to raise rents on regulated apartments, such as bumping the rent by 20% once the units became vacant or passing off the costs of building and apartment upgrades to tenants. Once the rent surpassed \$2,774.76, the apartments were removed from regulation, meaning landlords were then free to raise the rent as much as they pleased. But the various ways to raise rents beyond what a city panel dictated each year quickly became subject to abuse and fraud. But the new laws overhauling the system sharply curtailed how much rents could rise by curbing what sort of costs could be passed down to tenants and how long renters would have to shoulder the cost of upgrades, eliminating almost all of the ways landlords could get rent increases. The new law, however, did not address how much rent landlords can charge after they combine two or more rent-regulated apartments, allowing property owners to use the loophole to set the rent to whatever amount they want.

[Upper East Side Blood Center Neighbors Lose Lawsuit Against Rezoning](#)

August 25, 2022, *patch.com*, by Nick Garber

A judge dismissed a lawsuit by a group of neighbors who sought to block the New York Blood Center's rezoning, paving the way for the high-rise research tower to be built. Wednesday's ruling by Manhattan Supreme Court Justice Arlene Bluth brought an end to the lawsuit brought in March by residents of 301 East 66th St., a condominium building that sits next-door to the Blood Center site on East 67th Street between First and Second avenues. It comes nine months after the city approved the rezoning over vociferous local opposition, paving the way for a 233-foot-tall tower—much shorter than what had first been proposed—to replace the Blood Center's aging, three-story brick headquarters...Bluth, in her ruling, agreed that the project will no doubt "be annoying to neighbors during the four years of construction," adding that the new tower would likely impact views from the neighboring condo. "But there is also no doubt that the facility, once finished, will benefit the community," Bluth wrote — aligning with the arguments made by City Council members, planning commissioners, and other officials who backed the rezoning...The nonprofit blood bank praised Wednesday's ruling, saying that its new headquarters would create jobs, stimulate billions of dollars in annual economic output, and help make New York a global public health hub...Nearby St. Catherine's Park will get \$10.65 million in funding from the Blood Center as a nod to the new shadows that the tower will cast on the treasured green space, while next-door Julia Richman Education Complex will receive \$2 million, city officials have said.

Elections, voting & appointments

[How Nadler Beat Maloney: Block-By-Block Manhattan Breakdown](#)

August 29, 2022, *patch.com*, by Nick Garber

[Conservatives' Federal Case Challenges Immigrant Voting—Using Ex-Council Members' Own Words](#)

August 30, 2022, *thecity.nyc*, by Yoav Gonen

Adams administration officials, including culture commissioner Laurie Cumbo, feature prominently in case that alleges illegal racially discriminatory intent that harms Black voters... An Indiana-based conservative legal group has filed a lawsuit in federal court seeking to derail a local law that would allow more than 800,000 noncitizens to vote in local New York City elections. Four Black registered voters in the city represented by the Public Interest Legal Foundation (PILF) allege that the law was motivated by racially discriminatory intent that violates the Voting Rights Act.

Government, legislation, rules, policies, appointments (including pending)

[The Biden-Harris Administration's Student Debt Relief Plan Explained](#)

August 24, 2022, White House Student Aid announcement

President Biden, Vice President Harris, and the U.S. Department of Education have announced a three-part plan to help working and middle-class federal student loan borrowers transition back to regular payment as pandemic-related support expires....Part 1. Final extension of the student loan repayment pause...the Biden-Harris Administration will extend the pause a final time through December 31, 2022, with payments resuming in January 2023...Part 2. Providing targeted debt relief to low- and middle-income families...the U.S. Department of Education will provide up to \$20,000 in debt cancellation to Pell Grant recipients with loans held by the Department of Education and up to \$10,000 in debt cancellation to non-Pell Grant recipients. Borrowers are eligible for this relief if their individual income is less than \$125,000 or \$250,000 for households...In addition, borrowers who are employed by non-profits, the military, or federal, state, Tribal, or local government may be eligible to have all of their student loans forgiven through the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSLF) program. This is because of time-limited changes that waive certain eligibility criteria in the PSLF program. These temporary changes expire on October 31, 2022...Part 3. Make the student loan system more manageable for current and future borrowers...Income-based repayment plans have long existed within the U.S. Department of Education. However, the Biden-Harris Administration is proposing a rule to create a new income-driven repayment plan that will substantially reduce future monthly payments for lower- and middle-income borrowers.

Related: [White House faces legal questions with student loan forgiveness plan](#)

August 28, 2022, *thehill.com*, by Morgan Chalfant and Brett Samuels

The White House has stepped into tricky legal territory with a plan to erase \$10,000 in federal student loan debt for millions of borrowers...The Biden administration relied on the 2003 Heroes Act enacted following the Sept. 11 terror attacks to underpin its plan. It argues that because of the COVID-19 emergency, the law gives the Education Department the authority to both suspend loan repayments through Dec. 31 and cancel loan debt for many borrowers.

Related: [Did you hear about the student loan announcements? Scammers did, too](#)

August 26, 2022, *consumer.ftc.gov*, by K. Michelle Grajales

You've probably already heard about the new government plan that will forgive some federal student loans, once it's up and running. Also in the news: the federal student loan payment pause has been extended to December 31, 2022...Right now, the Department of Education is working hard on the details of the new plan: who's eligible and how to apply to get your student loan debt cancelled. It won't happen overnight, and they'll announce it widely when the program opens up for debt forgiveness. Sign up for Department of Education updates at ed.gov/subscriptions to be notified when the process has officially opened...Meanwhile, check on your federal loan servicer: be sure you know who they are, and that they have your most recent contact info. That will help you get the latest on the cancellation and pause...Also, remember that there's a whole separate program you might be eligible for: the Public Service Loan Forgiveness (PSFL) program. If you're eligible, you'll get federal student loan forgiveness after you have 120 qualifying payments. And until October 31, 2022, the limited waiver offers additional credit for time that previously didn't count. Check out the PSLF Help Tool to learn more. And remember: don't pay anybody who promises you early or special access, or guaranteed eligibility. Those are scams.

Introducing Legislation to Combat Gun Violence

Source: Rep. Carolyn Maloney's Weekly Update email, August 19, 2022

This week I introduced two new pieces of legislation to help tackle the gun violence epidemic. The first, my Firearm Industry Fairness Act will tax manufacturers and importers of assault weapons and high-capacity magazines at 20% of total revenue from all sales. The money generated will go to support victims of gun violence. My second bill, the Firearm Industry Crime and Trafficking Accountability Act would require that every firearm manufacturer create a monitoring system to track crimes committed with guns they have sold.

Source: State Senator Brad Hoylman's email of August 26, 2022

Governor Hochul signed three bills, co-sponsored by State Senator Brad

Hoylman into law, including one which he wrote at the suggestion of a constituent in State Senate District 27:

S.687 - Since 1994, there have been at least 63 shootings in New York as a result of imitation weapons being mistaken for real firearms. From now on, however, toy guns in New York will no longer be mistaken for real weapons. This legislation will help prevent these tragedies by clarifying the definition of an imitation weapon, requiring toy guns to be brightly colored or constructed entirely of transparent or translucent materials.

S.995 - Nursing home patients have rightly been the subject of immense public concern during the Covid-19 pandemic. Legislation co-sponsored by Assembly member Gottfried will allow a nursing home patient's legal representative or estate to sue for injuries under the Public Health Law, helping to ensure a proper standard of care.

S.67 - Senator Hoylman, the constituent and Assemblymember Epstein wrote legislation to require health care practitioners to provide patients and caregivers with evidence-based information about Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy (SUDEP) risk factors and conditions, as well as information about support services for epilepsy conditions.

Associate Judge Anthony Cannataro was named acting chief judge by the New York Court of Appeals

[Source: Gotham Gazette Eye Opener email, August 25, 2022]

[Cannataro] serves in the interim for outgoing Chief Judge Janet DiFiore, who is stepping down from the state's highest court at the end of the month. Cannataro will hold the position until Governor Kathy Hochul nominates a new chief judge and the nominee is confirmed by the state Senate. After DiFiore announced her resignation, progressive groups from around the state called on Hochul to choose a replacement that is not a former prosecutor, is committed to family, privacy and civil rights and upholds the independence of the judiciary. Cannataro was also nominated by Cuomo last May and confirmed in June, and has voted with DiFiore and the other two Cuomo-appointees on the Court of Appeals in 96 out of the 98 cases last judicial session, [according to New York Focus](#). He previously served on the New York City Civil Court. Before working in the courts, he was an Assistant Corporation Counsel in the New York City Law Department.

Governor Hochul signs legislation to strengthen housing affordability for New York seniors and families

August 8, 2022, press release

Legislation S.3085A/A.3956A Provides a Local Option to Expand Eligibility for the Property Tax Exemption for People Over 65 and People with Disabilities and Limited Income

Legislation S.8890/A.9135 Extends Local Option to Provide Property Tax Exemption to First-Time Home Buyers

Legislation S.9193/A.10271 Increases the Timeline for Completion and Amount Spent on Emergency Home Repairs for Low-to-Moderate Income Seniors Through [RESTORE](#)

New Legislation Affirms Governor's Commitment to Helping New Yorkers Through Nationwide Affordability Crisis

Homeowner tax rebate credit (HTRC) tax.ny.gov/pit/property/homeowner-tax-rebate-credit.htm. If you qualify, you don't need to do anything; NYS will automatically send you a check for the amount of your credit.

Memo: Governor Kathy Hochul's First Year in Office, August 23, 2022

Governor Hochul's self-evaluation: accomplishments in her first year in office.

(pending governor's signature) Fighting Chopper Noise

Source: State Senator Brad Hoylman's email of August 26, 2022

State Senator Hoylman appeared on stage at the Delacorte Theater in Central Park to request theatergoers to contact Governor Hochul and urged her to sign our "[Stop the Chop](#)" Act [Senate Bill S7493A, 2021-2022 Legislative Session] with Assembly member Gottfried, which would empower the NYS Attorney General and New Yorkers to file nuisance claims against tourist helicopters responsible for numerous quality of life complaints. The bill awaits the Governor's signature. Do your part by calling the Governor's office at 518-474-8390 or leave a message on her website governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form.

(pending State legislation) New York Lawmakers Look to Boost E-Bikes After Federal Snub

August 30, 2022, *nysfocus.com*, by Colin Kinniburgh

The recently passed Inflation Reduction Act turbocharges the market for electric cars at the expense of other forms of transit. A New York bill aims to help e-bikes catch up...In June, just before the end of the legislative session, the state Senate overwhelmingly passed [state senator from Brooklyn, Julia] Salazar's bill providing consumers up to \$1,100 when they buy an e-bike...Robert Carroll, the bill's sponsor in the Assembly, is "very optimistic" that Ride Clean can pass in the coming session, which begins in January...Transportation rivals buildings as New York's largest source of emissions...Consumers would get the discount straight from retailers and, in Carroll's eyes, the program wouldn't require any new funding. It could draw on the same pot of money as

Drive Clean, which NYSERDA [New York State Energy Research and Development Authority] funds with proceeds from the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), a cap-and-trade system for power plants across the northeast...Carroll said the bill fizzled out in the Assembly partly due to concerns that the subsidy would benefit richer New Yorkers.

[Mayor Adams lays out first steps to support NYC's recreational pot industry](#)

August 22, 2022, *gothamist.com*, by Cyra Paladini

Mayor Eric Adams rolled out his Cannabis NYC initiative Thursday to promote the regulated growth of the recreational marijuana industry across New York City. The City Department of Small Business Services commissioner Kevin Kim joined the mayor at Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn to pledge support for small businesses and entrepreneurs in the cannabis industry as New York prepares for the next phase in recreational marijuana, which was legalized in March of last year. The state of New York is planning to prioritize recreational cannabis licenses for those who have been most affected by past convictions for marijuana...Commissioner Kim said the program's immediate goal is to expand resources for retail license applicants. New York state has established nine distinct application categories including retail dispensary, cultivation, processing, and on-site consumption...State officials have said recreational marijuana sales could begin as early as this year...Medgar Evers President Patricia Ramsey expressed the institution's support of the legalized industry expansion and introduced the college's new minor in Cannabis Education...When asked how these new industry expansion measures might affect law enforcement responses to drug crimes, Adams maintained that illegal vendors and sales will be apprehended.

Budget & taxes

[Comptroller Lander Releases Analysis of New York City's June 2022 Financial Plan and Fiscal Year 2023 Adopted Budget](#)

August 24, Press Release

Urges depositing \$800 million of additional FY22 tax revenues into long-term reserves to help prepare for a potential economic downturn, while using a modest portion of remaining Federal stimulus to reverse school budget cuts.

New York City Comptroller Brad Lander, [Comments on New York City's Fiscal Year 2023 Adopted Budget](#), August 24, 2022

Legislation Signed to Provide Property Tax Rebate

Source: NYC Mayor's Community Affairs Unit Newsletter, August 30, 2022

Mayor Adams signed legislation to provide a one-time property tax rebate of up to \$150 to hundreds of thousands of eligible New York homeowners. To be eligible for the rebate, the property must be a one, two or three family residence or a dwelling unit in a cooperative or condominium; and the property must be the primary residence of the owner. In addition, the annual income of all the

owners of the property must have been less than or equal to \$250,000 in tax year 2020. Checks will be issued by the DOF to eligible homeowners.

Related: [Mayor Adams Signs Legislation to Provide Property Tax Rebate For NYC Homeowners](#)

Office of the Mayor press release, August 24, 2022.

Stories we are following

[Manhattan office leasing has busiest month of Covid era](#) (paywall)

September 2, 2022, by Nisha Shetty

Still, 67 percent more space is available than in March 2020: Colliers

New York...Some 3.4 million square feet of office space was leased in August, the most since January 2020, when the first Covid cases began to pop up in New York City, according to a [Colliers' report](#). Notably, space in Midtown is steadily getting harder to find...However, Midtown's available office space has increased by 36 percent since March 2020. Wallach said that number is modest compared to Midtown South (where it has more than doubled), Downtown (up 95 percent), and Manhattan overall (up 67 percent.) Prospective tenants in Manhattan now have approximately 90 million square feet to choose from, according to Colliers.

[Less Than A Third Of NYC'S Young Men Work Full Time, Study Shows](#)

August 23, 2022, *patch.com*, by Kathleen Culliton

The employment rate of men aged between 18 and 24 stands at 30 percent, according to a new analysis.

Report: [Labor force participation and employment rates have recovered for the city's women workers, but not men](#), The New School, Center for New York City Affairs,

August 18, 2022

Source: August 24, 2022, *thehill.com*, The Hill's Morning Report email

Overall life expectancy in the U.S. dropped by 1.8 years from 2019 to 2020,

according to a new [National Vital Statistics report](#). The decline affected all 50 states and Washington, D.C., ranging from 0.2 years in some states to as many as 3 years in New York. The dip is attributed to COVID-19 and an uptick in drug overdose deaths, marking the largest year-to-year change in more than 75 years.

[The \\$18,000 Breast Biopsy: When Having Insurance Costs You a Bundle](#)

August 23, 2022, *khn.org*, by Lauren Sausser

[Dani Yuengling, now 36, who is covered by Cigna through her employer] needed to know how much the biopsy would cost. She has a \$6,000 annual deductible — the amount her health plan requires she pay before its contribution kicks in...But the hospital wouldn't give her a price...The hospital's online "Patient Payment Estimator" showed Yuengling an uninsured patient would owe about \$1,400 for the procedure...she thought...it would be cheaper for her because she did have insurance...Total Bill: \$17,979 for the procedure, including lab work, pharmacy charges, and sterile supplies. Cigna's in-network negotiated rate was \$8,424.14, of which the insurance company paid the hospital \$3,254.47. Yuengling was billed \$5,169.67, the balance of her deductible...What Gives: It's not uncommon for uninsured patients — or any patient willing to pay a cash price — to be charged far less for a procedure than patients with health insurance...Meanwhile, Grand Strand Medical Center...blamed "a glitch" involving the hospital's online calculator for the inaccurate information Yuengling received and said the correct estimate for the cash price for a breast biopsy at the hospital is between \$8,000 and \$11,500 "depending on the exact procedure and equipment used." The hospital removed certain procedures from the payment estimator until they can be corrected...In some cases, paying a cash price for a procedure might not make financial sense in the long run because none of it would be applied toward the deductible...Insured patients should reach out to their health plan for a good-faith estimate before a procedure. Under the No Surprises Act, health plans are supposed to give members an idea of their total out-of-pocket costs upon request. Ask for an "Advanced Explanation of Benefits" ...The No Surprises Act also allows patients to file complaints with the federal government regarding their medical bills. [cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers](https://www.cms.gov/nosurprises/consumers).

Scam alert

[How to Spot Scam Texts on Your Smartphone](#)

August 4, 2022, *aarp.org*, by Katherine Skiba & Christina Ianzito, AARP

Take steps to protect yourself from fake mobile messages sent by cybercrooks... It's known as "smishing"...The term marries "short message service," or SMS, and phishing...Day and night, these fraudulent text messages bombard our mobile phones. The cybercriminals to blame for these illicit texts pretend to be from government agencies, such as the Internal Revenue Service, megaretailers like Amazon and Costco, and even major banks...There has been a recent uptick in "wrong number" robotexts...When you respond that they have the wrong number, they try to engage you...Some crooks send texts pressuring recipients to "login" to a fake bank website to verify a purchase or unlock a credit card that was frozen...They play mind games, too: They fire off tempting texts about supposed opportunities for big money...Criminals also capitalize on the fear factor, asserting in texts that you could lose money, have been accused of a crime, or will be mortified when embarrassing details about your life are exposed...The COVID-19 pandemic — and trillions of federal dollars unleashed to address the crisis — triggered an array of scam texts about coronavirus cures, surveys and special offers...**Key ways to stay safe**...Do not respond to suspicious text messages. Don't even reply by messaging "STOP" or "NO."...Do not click on hyperlinks or attachments in suspect messages...Take steps to filter unwanted messages or block them before they reach you... Never share personal or financial information by text, email or phone call.

Useful COVID-19 information

New York State and NYC Most of the covid restrictions have been lifted. For information about specific NY agencies, check with the agency's website. Federal guidelines are still in effect. Learn more at the links below.

Centers for Disease Control (CDC) covid webpage cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html

U.S. Food & Drug Administration (FDA) webpage on covid vaccines fda.gov/emergency-preparedness-and-response/coronavirus-disease-2019-covid-19/covid-19-vaccines

U.S. Department of State COVID-19 Travel Advisories
travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html

New York City covid webpage (for individuals and businesses)
www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/index.page.

New York State Business Pandemic Recovery Initiative. The Empire State Development page with information about grants, tax credits, and technical assistance programs for businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Learn more at esd.ny.gov/business-pandemic-recovery-initiative.

New York City Department of Health (DOH) covid webpage www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page

The NYC Citywide Information Portal with resource guides for businesses and individuals, including COVID-specific resource guides for New Yorkers
www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/resources-for-new-yorkers.page and [311 portal.311.nyc.gov](https://portal.311.nyc.gov).

All New Yorkers can get tested for coronavirus (PCR test)

Sites run by New York State are free coronavirus.health.ny.gov/find-test-site-near-you. You can also check with your doctor, pharmacies and walk-in urgent care to find out if they do testing and if there will be charges. NYC free testing locations: www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/get-tested/covid-19-testing.page, call 212-COVID19, or text COVID TEST to 855-48.

For Murray Hill/Kips Bay

Bellevue, First Avenue at 26th Street, (free) no appointment necessary; wait times are unpredictable. Be sure that they set up your patient portal so that you can get your results quickly. Test results usually come back in 1-2 days.

The NYC Citywide Information Portal

www1.nyc.gov/site/coronavirus/resources/resources-for-new-yorkers.page and 311 portal.311.nyc.gov have created COVID-specific resource guides for New Yorkers. These resource guides contain information related to emotional well-being, rent and housing, NYCHA residents, and more. Get information and resources to help protect yourself and others from COVID-19 <https://www1.nyc.gov/site/doh/covid/covid-19-main.page>.

The MHNA Discount Program

Please be prepared to show proof of membership when you ask for a discount. Full list of discounts at the links below.

[Restaurant and Food Discounts](#)

[General Discounts](#)

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 Member Erik Bottcher, Council District 3: council.nyc.gov/district-3, 212-564-7757, District3@council.nyc.gov.

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

NYC Council Member Julie Menin, Council District 5: council.nyc.gov/julie-menin, 212-788-6865, District5@council.nyc.gov.

NYC Council Speaker Adrienne E. Adams (speaker) SpeakerAdams@council.nyc.gov, 718-206-2068 council.nyc.gov/district-28.

Manhattan Borough President Mark Levine: 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 Eric Adams: www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor, 311, online message: <https://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/mayor-contact.page>.

Dan Garodnick, Director, Department of City Planning, 120 Broadway, 31st Floor, New York, NY 10271, Tel. 212-720-3480, Fax. 212-720-3488, Email via website at www1.nyc.gov/site/planning/about/email-the-director.page

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

Schedule of hearings, sign-up forms to attend and more.

New York Senate website nysenate.gov.

New York State Assembly website nyassembly.gov.

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

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

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

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

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

New York Assembly Upcoming Public hearings [And archived videos can also be accessed on this page.] nyassembly.gov/av/upcoming

New York Assembly Upcoming Public hearings calendar

<https://www.nyasembly.gov/leg/?sh=hear>

Governor Kathy Hochul, New York State, governor.ny.gov, contact page on website governor.ny.gov/content/governor-contact-form

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

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

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

U.S. President Joseph Biden: website contact form: whitehouse.gov/contact

The White House site whitehouse.gov is once more a trusted source for news on legislation, press releases, White House press briefings, and more. Presidential actions whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/presidential-actions.

You can also find these weekly newsletters online in PDF (printable) format at www.murrayhillnyc.org in the News section, look for Weekly Eblasts 2022.

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