

LAWRENCE PROPERTIES UPDATE

RESIDENTIAL MANAGERS SINCE 1925 • NEWSLETTER • WINTER 2005

Love a Parade? Here's a Year of Them

New Yorkers love a parade. Hardly a day goes by in this city without a procession, promenade or march. Saints and martyrs, great generals and common soldiers are honored in New York's processions, just as there are marches for civil rights, rites of spring and the right to put on fine clothes and strut around.

The best thing about many of this city's colorful parades is that you can be in them. Public displays of ethnic pride, civic duty and outright fabulousness are encouraged in New York. And you don't have to be particularly ethnic, dutiful or fabulous to participate. Mostly you just have to show up.

What follows is a listing of major parades in New York City in one calendar year. The New York City Government web portal maintains a comprehensive list of parades in the Events section of their site at <http://www.nyc.gov/html/cau/html/home/home.shtml>, however, dates may vary so it's best to check ahead.

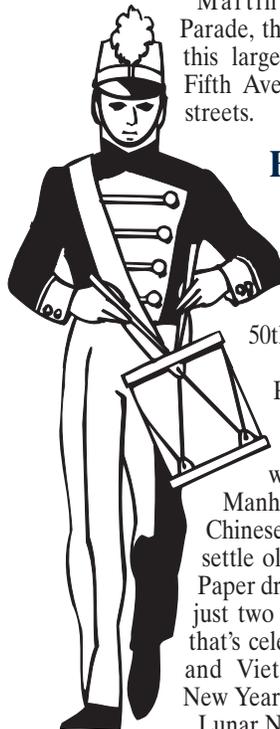
JANUARY

Less a parade than a massive party, New Year's Eve in Times Square, is something everyone should do . . . once. Last year marked the 100th anniversary of this impromptu get-together with a few thousand of your best friends. See <http://www.timessquarenyc.org/nye/nye.html> for more.

For the athletically inclined, The New York Road Runner's Club sponsors a Midnight Run on New Year's Eve. This four-mile event starts near Bethesda Fountain in Central Park. Afterwards there's music, fireworks, a masquerade and a non-alcoholic toast. For more info call the New York Road Runners Club at 212 860 4455, or sign up online: <http://www.nyrr.org>.

With the Three Kings Day Parade, El Museo del Barrio offers New Yorkers a celebration of the Nativity Caribbean style. This musical pageant re-tells the story of the Three Wise Men as it has been celebrated in the Caribbean for centuries. All are invited to join the celebration alongside the Three Kings, camels, sheep, horses, tall puppets, and musicians. The parade is usually held the first week in January in Spanish Harlem. Advance registration is required for group participation. Contact: 212-660-7144 or ThreeKings@elmuseo.org.

Martin Luther King Day Parade, third Monday in January, this large parade is held along Fifth Avenue from 44th to 86th streets.



FEBRUARY

The Presidents' Day Parade (the third Monday in February each year) at 5th Avenue from 35th to 50th Streets.

Chinese New Year's Parade, early February, Mott Street to Chatham Square and winding throughout Manhattan's Chinatown. The Chinese New Year is a time to settle old debts and start anew. Paper dragons and fireworks are just two features of the holiday that's celebrated in Korea, Tibet and Vietnam. In Vietnam the New Year is called Tet.

Lunar New Year Parade, also in early February, is Flushing's answer to the Chinese New Year Parade in Manhattan. It starts at Main Street and 37th Avenue and goes to Roosevelt Avenue in Queens.

MARCH

St. Patrick's Day Parade, March 17, Fifth Avenue, from 44th to 86th streets. The first St. Patrick's Day parade in New York was held in 1766 by Irish soldiers in the British army. With more than 150,000 marchers, it is now the

HOWARD KITAIN Hands-on Chief Financial Officer

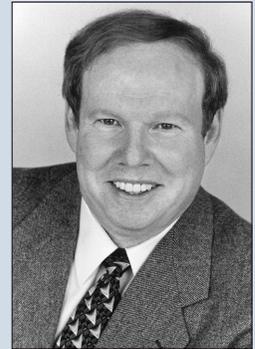


Photo by Bob Newey

"You have to approach each building like you're running a business. That's what the Chief Financial Officer of an effective residential management company does. Together the management team and the financial team make sure this business prospers." This is the voice of Howard Kitain, CFO of Lawrence Properties and Bernstein Real Estate, the company's commercial division.

"We're constantly talking to board presidents and treasurers about the best ways to handle their funds," says Howard. "It is very important to be available. When you are so close to your clients it is possible to catch all kinds of mistakes on their behalf. Like the \$113,000 bank error that was missed by both the co-op's accountant and the board treasurer. It was caught by one of our bookkeepers. Being hands-on makes us more astute." That approach is par for the course for Howard, his staff of fifteen and all of the members of Lawrence

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Ask Anton

Not a day goes by that Lawrence Properties doesn't respond to our residents with answers to real-life, day-to-day household operating questions. Anton Cirulli, our Director of Operations, provides the answers.



Photo by Bob Henery

Question: Who is responsible for heating and air-conditioning units in my apartment?

Answer: It varies. Where the heat and air-conditioning come out of the same unit, generally the shareholder owns it. You should check your proprietary lease. That will define who is responsible for what.

If you do find that the unit is your responsibility, then you'll have to treat it like a dishwasher, a refrigerator or any large appliance you own. You'll have to get your own service and repairman. However, if you find that the unit belongs to the co-op, routine maintenance, cleaning and servicing should be provided by your building's staff.

LAWRENCE PROPERTIES WELCOMES OUR NEW MANAGEMENT ASSIGNMENTS



308 East 79th Street

This 183 unit, 17 story cooperative is a luxurious, pre-war classic.



Southridge Cooperative Section II

A gracious residence of 6 buildings, each with 60 units and 6 stories, in Jackson Heights.

Love a Parade? Here's a Year of Them *(continued from page 1)*

world's largest civilian parade.

Greek Independence Day Parade is held on Fifth Avenue, on or about March 25, between 59th and 79th streets. It commemorates the beginning of the Greek war for independence against the Ottoman Empire in 1821.

APRIL

National Tartan Day, April 2, Times Square, (traditionally held April 6 in commemoration of the signing the Declaration of Abroath in 1320) is a day for New York's Scots. See <http://www.tartan-week.com/> or call 212-980-0844 for more information.

Armenian Martyrs Day, April 24, in Times Square, marks the beginning of the campaign to exterminate the Armenians in 1915.

The Easter Parade, held along Fifth Avenue, starting near St. Patrick's Cathedral, began in the 1870s. It became an annual affair in which marchers (or more accurately strollers) gathered along Fifth Avenue on Easter Sunday to display new outfits and hats for spring.

MAY

The Great Five Boro Bike Tour, May 1, is the largest cycling event in America and attracts around 30,000 cyclists from all over the world. It starts at Battery Park in Manhattan; see <http://www.bikenewyork.org/> for more.

Turkish-American Day parade, on or about May 18, Fifth Avenue.

Norwegian Constitution Day Parade, on or about May 17, Fifth Avenue, 95th Street to 67th Street in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. Call 212-531-4877 for more information.

Memorial Day Parade, the last Monday in May -- celebrated in many locations around New York -- the main event begins on 72nd Street and Broadway and travels west on 86th Street to the Soldiers and Sailors Monument in Riverside Park. The unofficial beginning of summer also coincides with Fleet Week (<http://fleetweek.navy.mil/>).

JUNE

Lesbian and Gay Pride Week and March, late June, marches down Fifth Avenue to Washington Square and around Greenwich Village. This is a major event for the gay community in New York. See <http://www.hopinc.org/home/> for more info.

Salute to Israel Parade, June 5, Fifth Avenue, 57th Street to 79th Street. See <http://www.salute-toisrael.com/index.asp> or email parade@salutetoisrael.com for more details.

The Mermaid Parade, at the summer solstice in June, has been a Brooklyn institution for more than 20 years. The procession of fish, lobsters, Neptunes and mermaids begins at Astroland on the boardwalk at Coney Island, turns at Keyspan Park (home of the Cyclones) and continues along Surf Avenue. See <http://www.coneyislandusa.com/mermaid.shtml> for more information or call 718-372-5159.

Puerto Rican Day Parade, second Sunday in June, Fifth Avenue, 44th Street to 86th Street in Manhattan. Call 718-401-0404 for more info.

JULY

Independence Day Celebrations, July 4, the fete includes Macy's popular fireworks display from barges moored on the East and Hudson Rivers. This spectacular display of pyrotechnics has long been run by the Grucci family of Long Island, who had first opened their fireworks company in southern Italy in the 1850s.

Juan Pablo Duarte Parade or the Dominican Parade, mid July, celebrates the independence of the Dominican Republic and honors Juan Pablo Duarte, who led the uprising. The parade runs along the Grand Concourse in the Bronx.

The Dance of the Giglio, on or about July 16, Metropolitan and Havermeier Streets, Williamsburg, Brooklyn. For over 100 years the men of the Mt. Carmel Parish have assembled to carry a five-story statue through the streets of Brooklyn in celebration of an ancient Neapolitan tradition. See <http://www.giglio-usa.org/Default.htm> for more info.

AUGUST

India Day Parade, on or about August 15, Madison Avenue from 54th to 26 Streets in Manhattan.

Pakistan Independence Day Parade, late August, Madison Ave. from 41st to 26th Streets. Check <http://nyc.gov/html/cau/html/home/home.shtml> in early August.

The Annual Battle of Brooklyn Parade, August 28, kicks off at the Green-wood Cemetery in Brooklyn to commemorate the first of Washington's great retreats during the Revolutionary War. Call 718-788-7850 or see <http://www.green-wood.com/> for more information.

SEPTEMBER

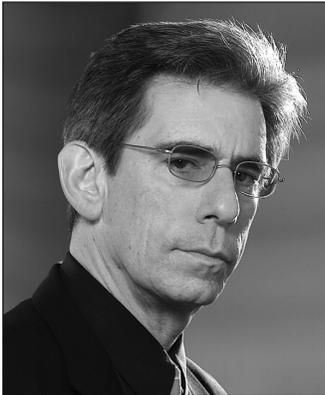
The Labor Day Parade, held on the first Monday in September along Fifth Avenue, celebrates the American worker and marks the unofficial end of summer.

(Continued on back page)

SUCH INTERESTING PEOPLE

Such interesting people live in Lawrence Properties-managed buildings. We thought you might like to meet some of them, so each issue we introduce someone we think you'd like to know. This issue, meet:

Watching the Detectives with Richard Belzer



Comedian, actor and author Richard Belzer is probably best known for playing Detective John Munch on the long-running television show "Law & Order: Special Victims Unit." He has, in fact, played the same character on five different TV shows.

Detective Munch made his first appearance on the acclaimed "Homicide: Life on the Streets" in 1992. After a seven-year run, Belzer's character transferred from Baltimore to New York to join the crime unit on "Law & Order: SVU." In between Belzer, as Munch, has appeared in "Law & Order, The X-Files," and "The Beat".

"I auditioned for Detective Munch," says Belzer. "Luckily he seems to have a wide range of appeal and can fit into different types of shows."

Belzer didn't always fit in. As a boy, growing up in Bridgeport, Connecticut, he was invited to leave every school he ever attended. "I was always funny and getting in trouble for it," Belzer explains. "I only got into (show) business after I had exhausted every other avenue of employment."

Belzer's early career was indeed varied. He began as a newspaper reporter for the *Bridgeport Post* and went on to work for other newspapers. Belzer also had gigs as a teacher, a census taker, a salesman and a dockworker.

It wasn't until 1971, when Belzer saw an ad in New York's *Village Voice* for an off-Broadway show called "Groove Tube" that he scored his first good comedy role. Belzer did bits he had done hundreds of times for his friends -- Bob Dylan's bar mitzvah and impressions of Marlon Brando and Jerry Lewis. "The Groove

Tube" was an underground hit, and later made into a popular movie, which launched Belzer's career.

Since that time Belzer has amassed a long list of credits in film, television and radio. He is a frequent guest on "The Howard Stern Show" and has also been a guest star and a host on "Saturday Night Live." Belzer has contributed to "South Park, The Larry Sanders Show, Miami Vice" and "Moonlighting." Belzer's film credits include "Fame, The Flash, The Big Picture, Fletch Lives, Scarface, Café Flesh, Night Shift," and "The Bonfire of the Vanities." Additionally, Robert De Niro studied Belzer for his role in the 1983 film "The King of Comedy."

Despite these accomplishments, Belzer maintains a workmanlike attitude toward the process. "I get cast by other people," he says. "They choose me; I don't choose them."

Throughout his 35 years in show business, Belzer has kept a hand in comedy. He has seen it change and grow over the years. "Currently, comedy has more outlets for it because of cable television," Belzer says. "It has become a bigger business and there is more variety."

Live comedy, however, is still vital for Belzer. He recently completed a series of gigs at Caroline's here in New York. "It's an essential part of America," explains Belzer. "There will always be a place for live comedy in American culture."

Richard Belzer is also the author of *UFOs, JFK and Elvis: Conspiracies You Don't Have to Be Crazy to Believe*, and he hosted and produced "The Belzer Connection," a series of conspiracy-theory prime time specials for the Sci-Fi Channel.

What's the fascination with conspiracy? "It is how history is made," Belzer says. "Virtually, every great moment in history has a conspiracy behind it. From the Revolution to the present day -- JFK, UFOs Watergate, Iran Contra, the Iraq War etc. Everything is a conspiracy."

For all of Belzer's public personae, he remains essentially a private man. "All (people) need to know is on the stage, screen or in my books," Belzer says.

Belzer and his wife, the actress Harlee McBride, have two daughters, Jessica and Bree. They live in New York City part of the year and maintain a second home in France. For Belzer, New York is the place to be. "I have lived in NYC for 35 years," he says, "and consider it my home when I'm in America."

Belzer has clearly made it, but he hasn't forgotten the years of struggle a young performer will have to endure. For young actors and comics, Belzer has this piece of advice: "Be prepared to fail again and again before you succeed. And don't give up!"

Howard Kitain (cont'd from page 1)

Properties.

"When there are issues that need to be resolved and the Management Executive deems it necessary, I attend board meetings," Howard says. In fact, Howard arrived for this early-morning interview after spending an evening at a co-op board meeting.

In his 15 years with Lawrence Properties, Howard has come to appreciate the value of the personal touch. Before he joined the firm in July of 1990, Howard was a comptroller for Prince Tennis, a division of Chesebrough-Pond's. When Chesebrough-Pond's was sold to Unilever, Howard, a CPA and an MBA, found a new position with a residential real estate firm. "They wanted someone with a fresh approach," he says. "I learned a lot in those three years."

Happenstance brought Howard to Lawrence Properties. Asher Bernstein, a principal in the firm, was involved in one of the real estate transactions Howard had worked on. When the comptroller's job opened up at the company, Asher asked Howard to come aboard.

What's the difference between working in real estate and making tennis rackets? "The difference is coming from a \$3-billion corporation to a privately owned firm; it means you can get things done a lot quicker and more efficiently," Howard notes. "Also you get to know people a lot better."

In the office, Howard is considered the computer maven. He has significant experience with them and has lectured on the use of personal computers and their related software. He was directly involved in creating the in-house system.

Howard is married to Sandra Kitain and has two children, Marshall and Lara. He resides in Yardley, Pennsylvania and is a fabulous cook.

Love a Parade? Here's a Year of Them (cont'd from page 2)

More of a happening than a parade, Wigstock, Labor Day weekend, has become the venue of choice for the city's top drag queens and lesser cross-dressers. Alternately held in Tompkins Square Park or the 11th Street Pier on the Hudson River. Check the *Voice* for the details: <http://www.villagevoice.com/>.

Korean Day Parade, on or about September 24, on Broadway from 42nd to 23rd Streets. For more information call 718-786-5858.

German-Americans remember Baron Friedrich von Steuben, the Prussian drillmaster who came to the aid of Washington's Army during the Revolutionary War, at the annual Steuben Day Parade, on or about September 18, Fifth Avenue, from 63rd Street to 86th Street.

West Indian-American Day Parade, Labor Day, Eastern Parkway, Utica Avenue to Washington Avenue in Brooklyn. This annual celebration of Caribbean culture is one of the most colorful -- and loudest -- parades in the city. See <http://www.wiadca.org/> for more information.

OCTOBER

The Greenwich Village Halloween Parade, October 31, 6th Avenue from Spring to 21st St., gets bigger every year. You can join the estimated two million spectators along the avenue, or you can be in the parade. All it takes is a costume and a little chutzpa; see <http://www.halloween->

[nyc.com/index.php](http://www.nyc.com/index.php) for details.

New York's Columbus Day Parade, 12 October, is a big event for the Italian-American community. It takes place along Fifth Avenue, between 44th and 72nd streets in Manhattan.

International Immigrants Parade, on or about September 12, Madison Avenue from 27th to 41st Streets.

The red and the white comes out for Pulaski Day Parade, Polish-American's day to remember Casimir Pulaski, the Polish count who led the American cavalry during the Revolutionary War. The first Sunday in October, along Fifth Avenue from 26th Street to 57th Street.

Ragamuffin Day Parade, first Saturday in October, Third Avenue from 67th to 92nd Streets in Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. Children from all over the city put on homemade outfits and costumes to join this colorful march. For more information send an email to ragamuffinparade@USA.com.

NOVEMBER

From the Verrazano-Narrows Bridge to Central Park's Tavern on the Green, the New York City Marathon, usually held on the first Sunday in November, is a procession like no other. Over 30,000 athletes turn out for this run through the five boroughs. And most of New York turns out to cheer them on. See <http://www.nycmarathon.org/> for more infor-

mation.

Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade, the last Thursday in November, travels along Central Park West then down Broadway to Herald Square. Join the throngs along the parade route or show up the night before to see the balloons inflated outside the American Museum of Natural History. See <http://www.nycvisit.com/home/> for more.

Veterans Day Parade, November 11, marches up Fifth Avenue from 23rd to 59th Streets in Manhattan.

DECEMBER

The World Aids Day Candlelight Vigil, December 1, is a tribute to those whose lives are affected by HIV. See <http://www.worldaidsday.org/> for more information.

Rockefeller Center Christmas Festivities: the lighting of the Christmas tree at the Rockefeller Center in early December is legendary in New York and marks the official start of Christmas festivities. See <http://www.nyctourist.com/> for more information.

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