



Rosemary Ginty, Chair

Michael F. Heller, District Manager

In This Issue:

- August 2017 Community Board & Committee Calendars

NEWS:

- Report on the 7/27/2017 Land Use Committee meeting
- Breaking News! After 30 years, CSX clean-up is on Track
- Reconstruction of the West 229 Street Step Street
- CB8 Housing Guide now online
- Update for SCHE/DHE Participants

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- National Night Out
- Riverdale Y Sunday Farmer's Market
- Friends of Van Cortlandt Park Youth Run Farmstand
- Riverdale Youthmarket
- Marble Hill Youth Market
- Free Summer Concerts in the Bronx
- Free Summer Meals
- Free Community Rowing at Van Cortlandt Park Lake
- Barefoot Dancing
- Wave Hill events throughout the month of August

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT:

- Knolls Crescent

Visit our website to view agendas, minutes and information. Click on links below:

- Aging
- Board Meeting
- Economic Development
- Education
- Environment & Sanitation
- Executive Committee
- Health, Hospitals & Social Services
- Housing
- Land Use
- Law, Rules & Ethics
- Libraries & Cultural Affairs
- Parks & Recreation
- Public Safety
- Traffic & Transportation
- Youth



AUGUST 2017 COMMUNITY BOARD & COMMITTEE CALENDARS

BOARD COMMITTEE CALENDARS

Per the NYC Charter: "Except during the months of July and August, each community board shall meet at least once each month within the community district and conduct at least one public hearing each month."

In the event of necessity, a committee or board meeting may be scheduled.

Please go to www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8 for an update of our calendar.

The next Bronx Community Board No. 8 meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 13, Manhattan College School of Engineering, 3825 Corlear Avenue.

- **Bronx Community Board No. 8 thanks our local institutions for their generosity in hosting meetings of the Board and its Committee's throughout the year.**

In our last newsletter, we failed to recognize a number of the local organizations that provided space for the board and various committees to meet. To those organizations, American Legion Post 774, Atria Riverdale, Citadel Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Ethical Culture Fieldston School, Horace Mann School, Kingsbridge Social Club, KRVC, Parilla Latina, our apologies! We appreciate your generosity and willingness to support Bronx Community Board 8.

NEWS:

- **Families with Children Shelter - 5731 Broadway Report on Land Use Committee Meeting held on Thursday, July 27**

The Land Use Committee met on Thursday, July 27 at the Riverdale YM/YWHA. Over 200 people attended the meeting. The main agenda item was a presentation about plans by the New York City Department of Homeless Services (DHS) to open a Families with Children Shelter at 5731 Broadway, a building recently constructed by the Stagg Organization. Despite assurances for more than a year and a half that the building was intended to accommodate market-rate housing, the developer entered in an agreement with Praxis Housing Initiatives to lease the building to provide temporary shelter for 81 homeless families, including a range of on-site services. The audience, community board members and elected officials overwhelmingly objected to the deceptive and secretive method by which the building was converted, and that permanent housing, as opposed to a transitional shelter, would be more consistent with the needs of the local community. City officials indicated that the project would proceed as planned through the procurement process.

- **Breaking News! After 30 Years, CSX Cleanup is on Track**

In January, our Environment and Sanitation Committee began a letter writing and phone campaign to get the railroad giant, CSX, to clean up all the garbage and debris along its right of way between Van Cortlandt Park south and West 230th Street. Two weeks ago, CSX informed committee chair Laura Spalter, that massive project would finally begin by the end of July and will take approximately 4 weeks to complete. More news to follow.

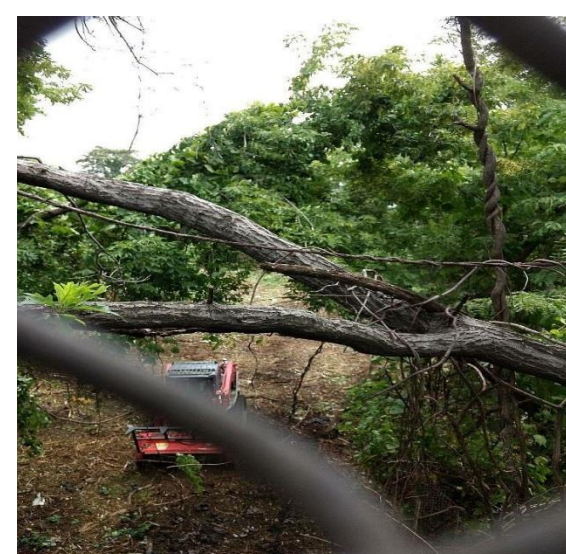


Photo by Laura Frisch

○ **Reconstruction of the West 229 Street Step Street**

The Department of Design and Construction (DDC) began the reconstruction of West 229 Street Step Street located between Heath Avenue and Kingsbridge Terrace. The project is to improve pedestrian safety, install sewer manholes, water main, upgrade drainage system and installation of street lighting, reconstruction of sidewalks and curbs, roadway restoration and reconstruction of retaining walls. The anticipated completion date for the project is Winter 2018. The work will be performed in the following locations:

- West 229 Street between Heath Avenue and Kingsbridge Terrace
- Heath Avenue between West 225 Street and West 230 Street
- The intersection of Heath Avenue and West 229 Street
- Kingsbridge Terrace between West 231 Street and West Kingsbridge Road
- The intersection of Kingsbridge Terrace and West 229 Street

DDC is asking for the patience of the community during the project. There will be some water shut down during the project, but there will be advance notice and DDC states that any water shut down will be restored by 6:00PM on the same day of shut down. Please [click here](#) for further information.

○ **CB 8 Housing Guide now online**

The CB8 Housing Committee of CB8 developed a Resource Guide. It is a directory to assist residents with all types of housing needs, including locating market rate or affordable housing, whether for rental, sale or purchase, resolution of housing-related complaints, resources to turn to if you are facing foreclosure or eviction, homelessness resources, sources of legal representation and resources available for small landlords. Please [click here](#) for further information.

○ **Update for SCHE/DHE Participants**

The NY State Legislature passed a bill on June 21, 2017 that increases the maximum qualifying income for the Senior Citizen Homeowner Exemption or Disabled Homeowner Exemption (SCHE/DHE) from \$37,399 to \$58,400. When this bill is signed into law, it will enable more seniors and disabled individuals to stay in their homes. Those who fall within the guidelines are exempted from regular rent increases.



If you did not respond to the Department of Finance (DOF) mailings to renew your exemption, or did not renew because your income was too high, you should still send in your renewal application. Download the form at nyc.gov/finance under "Property Owner Benefit Forms". Call 311 and ask them to mail one to you, or stop by any of the DOF Business Centers and ask for a renewal application. If you qualify, your exemption will apply to this entire tax year (July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018). For more information, [click here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

○ **National Night Out, 50th Precinct – Tuesday, August 1**

National Night Out is an annual event that promotes police-community partnerships to make neighborhoods safer, better places to live. It provides an opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. Other precincts in the Bronx and throughout the entire nation participate. This event is taking place on Tuesday, August 1 from 4:00PM to 8:00PM at West 234 Street between Broadway and Bailey Avenue. Come out and meet the Police Officers from the 50th Precinct.



○ **Riverdale Y Sunday Farmer's Market**

The Riverdale Y Sunday Farmer's Market is located at RKA-Riverdale Kingsbridge Academy at Independence Avenue and West 237 Street. It is open every Sunday from 9:00AM to 2:00PM.

Contact Us:

Bronx Community Board No. 8
5676 Riverdale Avenue,
Suite 100
Bronx, New York 10471-2194
Telephone: 718-884-3959
Fax: 718-796-2763
E-Mail: bx08@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8

Follow us on Facebook

○ **Friends of Van Cortlandt Park Youth Run Farmstand**

Every Wednesday, beginning July 12 through October 25 from 2:00PM to 7:00PM at the Train Park at Gale Place & Orloff Avenue. Cash, EBT/Credit/Debit, Health Bucks, Fresh Connect Bucks, WIC and FMNP Checks accepted.

○ **Riverdale Youthmarket**

The Riverdale Youthmarket runs at Riverdale Neighborhood House at West 256 Street and Mosholu Avenue every Thursday, beginning July 6 through October 26 from 1:00PM to 7:00PM. Cash, EBT/Credit/Debit, Health Bucks, Fresh Connect Bucks, WIC and FMNP Checks accepted.

○ **Marble Hill Youthmarket**

Every Thursday from 2:00PM to 6:00PM at West 225 Street between Broadway and Exterior Street. Cash, EBT/Credit/Debit, Health Bucks, Fresh Connect Bucks, WIC and FMNP Checks accepted.

○ **Free Summer Concerts in the Bronx**

The Bronx Council of the Arts is happy to bring free summer concerts to our community. These concerts are open to the public and free for everyone. Here's a list of the upcoming concerts:

- John Benitez & His Salsa Band – Wednesday, August 2 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM at the Amalgamated Train Park on Orloff Avenue between Van Cortlandt Avenue and Gale Place
- Mystery Tour Beatles Tribute Band – Wednesday, August 9 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM at Henry Hudson Park on Independence Avenue and West 227 Street
- Gene Dinapoli – Monday, August 21 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM at the Riverdale YM-YWHA, 5625 Arlington Avenue
- New York Skyscrapers & Friends – Tuesday, August 22 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM at the Riverdale YM-YWHA, 5625 Arlington Avenue
- River of Dreams – Wednesday, August 23 from 7:00PM to 9:00PM at the Riverdale YM-YWHA, 5625 Arlington Avenue

For more information on the summer concerts, [click here](#).



○ **Free Summer Meals**

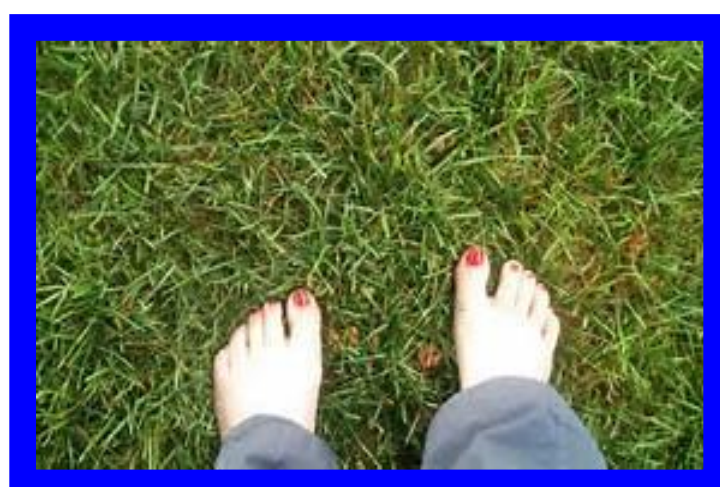
Breakfast and lunch continues during the summer for all children through September 1. The Summer Meals Program is available at schools, libraries, parks, pools, NYCHA, and trucks throughout the city. There is no registration, documentation or ID required to receive a free breakfast and/or lunch meal for children up to the age of 18. For more information and to find a location near you, [click here](#).

Contact Us:

Bronx Community Board No. 8
5676 Riverdale Avenue,
Suite 100
Bronx, New York 10471-2194
Telephone: 718-884-3959
Fax: 718-796-2763
E-Mail: bx08@cb.nyc.gov

Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8

Follow us on Facebook



- **Free Community Rowing at Van Cortlandt Park Lake**

Like the water and the outdoors? Then join Village Community Boathouse's rowing program at the Van Cortlandt Park Lake. This program is free and open for everyone. In the program, you will be taught the basics in rowing and how to use a sculling boat. This event is held on the following dates: Friday, August 4, 11, 18, 25 from 4:30PM to 7:30PM. For more information, [click here](#).

- **Barefoot Dancing**

Kick off your shoes and dance on the lush, green Van Cortlandt House Museum Lawn. This event is taking place on Thursday until August 3, 2017 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM. You can enter the park at Broadway and West 254 Street. For more information call (718) 430-1890 or [click here](#).



- **Visit Wave Hill for events throughout the month of August. Wave Hill is located at West 249 Street and Independence Avenue:**

- 1. Family Art Project: Water is life**

Join Native American storyteller, Joe Cross as he tells stories of the importance of water. In this event you will be able to make an air dry clay pot with designs depicting the directional flow of water. This event is free and being held on Saturday, August 5 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.

- 2. Family Art Project: Fishy Fun**

Like fish, come see the goldfish that swim at Wave Hill's Aquatic Garden. Kids will be able to convert a paper bag into a 3-D fish that they will be able to take home. This event is free and admission to the grounds is free until noon on Saturday, August 12 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.

- 3. Family Art Project: Be a Bee**

Like costumes? Come dress up like a bee with wings and antennae. You'll get a kazoo to help you sound like a bee around a hive. You can even join the bee parade and dance like a bee in a cardboard bee hive. The parade starts at 12:30PM. This event is free and admission to the grounds is free until noon on Saturday, August 19 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM.

- 4. Family Art Project: Shades of Summer**

Use colored glasses to see the world in a different color. In this event you will be able to create your own sunglasses with colorful lenses to see through. This event is being held on Saturday, August 26 from 10:00AM to 1:00PM and is free and admission to the grounds is free until noon.

- 5. Garden Highlights Walk**

Join us for an hour-long tour of seasonal garden highlights. Meet at the Perkins Visitor Center. This tour is scheduled for every Saturday and Tuesday in August from 11:00AM to 12:00PM. This event is free and admission to the grounds is free until noon.

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT

Knolls Crescent

Knolls Crescent is a residential complex located in a cul de sac off of Kappock Street. Immediately adjacent to the complex is a small shopping center that meets many of the needs of local residents. The apartment buildings were built in the early 1950s. The natural environment and diversity of the resident population create the atmosphere of a town within an urban environment. Travel to Manhattan is convenient as is access to upstate areas via parkways.



Bronx Community Board No. 8
5676 Riverdale Avenue, Suite 100 • Bronx, New York 10471-2194
Telephone: 718-884-3959 • Fax: 718-796-2763
E-Mail: bx08@cb.nyc.gov
Website: www.nyc.gov/bronxcb8
Follow us on [Facebook](#)

Serving the neighborhoods of Fieldston, Kingsbridge, Kingsbridge Heights,
Marble Hill, Riverdale, Spuyten Duyvil, and Van Cortlandt Village