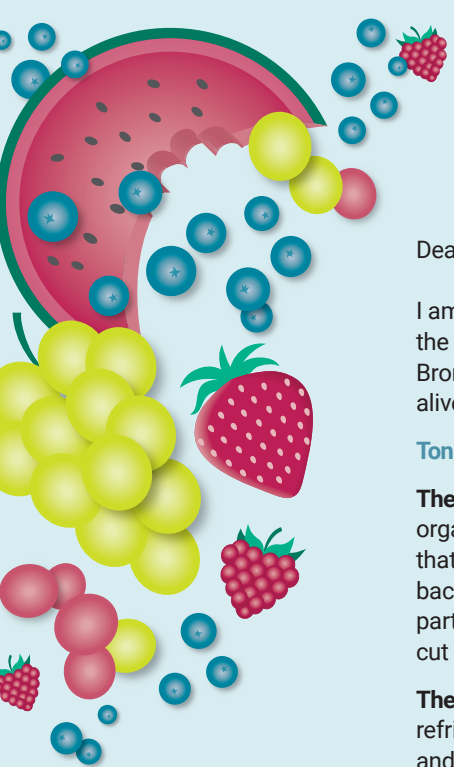




Springtime Shindig!

Thursday, May 11, 2023



Dear Friends and Supporters,

I am pleased to welcome you to **Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's Springtime Shindig!** Our spring event is a time to reflect on the accomplishments of the previous 12 months, honor those champions that support our mission and the people of the Bronx, and celebrate the spring and summer seasons. Van Cortlandt Park is active every month of the year, but truly comes alive as we bask in the warm weather and see our favorite landscape flourish with natural colors.

Tonight, we are proud to honor two organizations whose work changes the lives of people in the park and all around the Bronx:

The Courts of Dreams Junior Board is the recipient of this year's **Cultivating the Bronx Award**. Courts of Dreams is a nonprofit organization that restores basketball courts across underserved New York City neighborhoods. They select outdoor courts that, even though they are in poor condition, are heavily used by neighborhood children. Their mission goes beyond new backboards and floor paint – they strive to instill the values of teamwork, mutual respect and leadership. This past year, in partnership with VCPA, together we renovated two basketball courts in Woodlawn. We broke ground in June of 2022 and cut the ribbon on gleaming new courts in the fall.

The Friendly Fridge BX will receive this year's **Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award**. The Friendly Fridge BX, a community refrigerator initiative, is the first of its kind in the Bronx. Today, nearly 1 in 3 NYC residents still experience food insecurity and lack access to fresh, nutritious food. With that challenge in mind, The community fridge is located across the street from the park—right by the last stop on the #1 Train—ensuring that everyone in our community has access to fresh food. VCPA works closely with Sara Allen and Selma Raven of the Friendly Fridge, donating fresh produce from our Garden & Compost site, as well as our Youth Run Farm Stand.

On behalf of VCPA's board, I also invite you to join us at any one of our amazing free events in the park this summer:

The NY Philharmonic will be back in Van Cortlandt on June 13 to kick off their Concert in the Parks series – last year we hosted nearly 6,000 people on the Parade Ground. Dating back to 1965, the NY Philharmonic transforms our park into a concert hall for the enjoyment of our families, children, and friends. The night is even capped off with an amazing fireworks display!

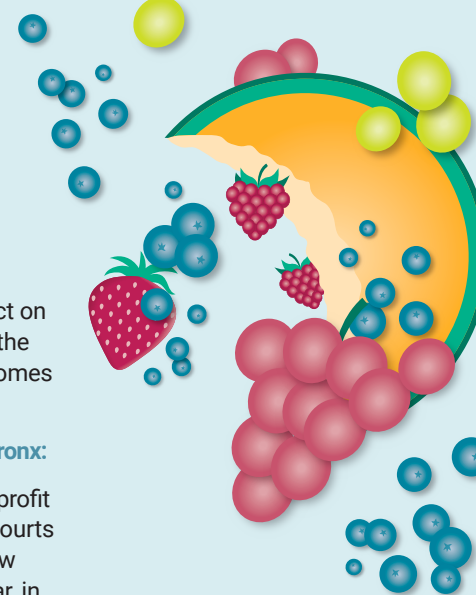
Our annual **Juneteenth Celebration** on June 19, which honors the memory and legacy of people who were enslaved, will include music and spoken word performances. The event culminates with a procession to the Enslaved African Burial Ground where participants can pay their respects. We encourage you to learn more about the **Enslaved People Project**, our free curriculum for young people, and public programming.

We are able to offer these, and many other musical, cultural and cinematic, programs all summer long thanks to our community and YOUR generosity.

On behalf of the board, staff, interns, and thousands of park volunteers, I thank you for supporting the work of Van Cortlandt Park Alliance.



Charlie Samboy
Board Chair





Dear Friends,

It is my absolute pleasure to welcome you to the **Springtime Shindig**, our annual benefit supporting the work of Van Cortlandt Park Alliance. It has been 3 years since I joined the Van Cortlandt Park team as Executive Director of the Alliance and Park Administrator, and I am so proud of the work we have accomplished.

This past year, we've advanced the design plans to **Daylight Tibbetts Brook and extend the Putnam Greenway**. With NYC Parks and NYC DEP taking the lead, the city's largest green infrastructure project is on schedule to break ground in the next year. VCPA has been there every step of the way, advocating for this essential project. Our **Garden & Compost Site has undergone a transformation**, growing in size and scope, so that we can expand our educational offerings for Bronx kids and create new opportunities for the community to learn about food production, composting, and food justice issues. We can't wait to grow more fruits and veggies to share with our pals at The Friendly Fridge BX. And, with support from our friends at Courts of Dreams, VCPA **renovated 2 basketball courts** at Woodlawn Playground.

Just this past month, we welcomed **Baobab: Tree of Life** to the park, working with NYC Parks' Art in the Parks program. Conceived by artist Tijay Mohammed and constructed by the young fellows at Beam Center, the sculpture is inspired by a succulent tree native to Ghana that provides food, medication, and shelter and serves as a social meeting place. The base of Baobab: Tree of Life forms a bench where people are welcome to sit for a while, relax, and engage in dialog with each other. An impressive 17 feet tall, the piece is composed of metal, ceramic shards, and MetroCards; its mosaic base is inspired by Adinkra symbols and African fabric. The location for the installation was selected for its close proximity to the Enslaved African Burial Ground. We are delighted that the installation will be onsite well into spring 2024.

This summer we look forward to seeing you on the Parade Ground at our ongoing **Starlight Cinema movie series!** Once again, we will bring you a curated selection of sci-fi films bolstered by live DJ music, theme-related crafts, and a Nature Nerds experience. This summer's theme, "Outer Space," highlights movies from the 1950s, 60s, 70s, and the 2010s. Check vancortlandt.org for more information.

And, there are so many more wonderful things ahead — trail runs, volunteer stewardship activities, Youth-Run-Farmstand, Urban Eco-Teen and Garden 2 Market Teen Internship programs, cross country competitions, Hike-toberfest, and every sport imaginable.

It is a thrilling time to be involved with Van Cortlandt Park Alliance! We want to spread the word... so, I ask you to think about ways you can bring more people into the fold. Send them to our social media @vcpalliance, our website vancortlandt.org, invite them to programs, and introduce them to the good work we are doing whenever possible.

See you around the park!

With gratitude,

Stephanie Ehrlich
Executive Director, Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
Van Cortlandt Park Administrator, NYC Parks



Honorees

Courts of Dreams Junior Board:

Daniel Cornstein, Chair

Chase Forbes

Andrew Phillips

Julia Phillips

Jack Silberstein

Emily Weidman

Kate Wolfberg

The Friendly Fridge BX:

Sara Allen, Co-Founder

Selma Raven, Co-Founder

Courts of Dreams Junior Board:

Daniel Cornstein, Chair

Chase Forbes

Andrew Phillips

Julia Phillips

Jack Silberstein

Emily Weidman

Kate Wolfberg



Courts of Dreams is a nonprofit organization dedicated to refurbishing run-down basketball courts in neighborhoods throughout New York City. Their goal is to bring joy and connectivity through access to safe, beautiful basketball courts, while promoting the values of the sport: teamwork, mutual respect, and leadership. Danny Cornstein and a cohort of dedicated teens, the Junior Board of Courts of Dreams, raised significant funds in 2022 to repave the basketball courts on the Woodlawn side of the park.

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance is pleased to honor the Junior Board with this year's *Cultivating the Bronx Award*.



The Friendly Fridge BX:

Sara Allen, Co-Founder

Selma Raven, Co-Founder

The Friendly Fridge BX is a community refrigerator initiative grounded in the principles of mutual aid. The first of its kind in the Bronx, the community fridge is located across the street from the park.

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance will present Selma Raven and Sara Allen with this year's annual *Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award* for all they did for the community during the pandemic -and continue to do, ensuring that everyone has access to fresh food.





Sponsors

Groovy Sweet Gum

Horace Mann School

Dr. Thomas M. Kelly, Head of School

Outta Sight Oak

Lisa Cintron and Ezra Borut

Collegiate School

Courts of Dreams Junior Board

Ethical Culture Fieldston School

Montefiore Einstein

SAR Academy and SAR High School

Rabbi Binyamin Krauss, Academy Principal

Lee Sossen and Sherri Williams

Nina Habib Spencer and G. Parke Spencer

Mellow Mountain Laurel

The Cornstein Family

Groundwork Hudson Valley

Kathryn and Vincent G. Heintz

Manhattan College

Dr. Ronald Gray, Vice President of Student Life

John Park and Jeanne Jang

The Phillips Family

Stacey Wieder

Far Out Fern

Bob Bender and Loretta Nash

Victoria Berger-Gross and Family

Linda R. Cox and John G. Robinson

Stephanie Ehrlich

Dr. Heather Erhard and Andrew Cohen

Judy Mills-Johnson and Ian Johnson

Lloyd's Carrot Cake

Felicity Nitz

Lemle & Wolff

Riverdale Country School

Charlie Samboy

Carol J. Samol

Sandra and James Seo

Marvin Shandler and Linda Shandler Friedman

Tishman Speyer

Amit and Hila Stern

Terry Grant Stoeth



Van Cortlandt Park Alliance Board of Directors

Charlie Samboy, Chair

Judy Mills-Johnson, Vice Chair

Teresa Grant Stoeth, Secretary

Stacey Wieder, Treasurer

Lilka Adams

Gary Axelbank

Robert Baron

Lisa Cintron

Erin Clarke

Linda Cox

Dr. Ronald Gray

Nina Habib Spencer

Dr. Thomas M. Kelly

Rabbi Binyamin Krauss

John Park

Carol J. Samol

Lee Sossen

Amit Stern

Jeff Torkin



Springtime Shindig Host Committee

Judy Mills-Johnson, Committee Chair

Lilka Adams

Gary Axelbank

Lisa Cintron

Dr. Ronald Gray

Nina Habib Spencer

Dr. Thomas M. Kelly

Charlie Samboy

Lee Sossen

Amit Stern

Stacey Wieder



UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



May 11, 2023

Dear Friends,

As United States Representative of NY-15 in the Bronx, it is my great pleasure to celebrate the fantastic work of the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance (VCPA) on this year's Springtime Shindig.

In a city renowned for its numerous parks, Van Cortlandt Park stands out as one of the largest and most beautiful parks and a vital piece of the Bronx. With its fields, tennis courts, golf course, freshwater lake, hiking trails, and more, the park offers something for everyone. Through cultural, educational, ecological, and recreational programs, the VCPA continuously works to preserve and improve the park for all of its visitors.

Among many things, the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted the importance of access to nature for improved physical and mental health making the VCPA's work all the more essential. Today, we honor the VCPA team, volunteers, and community partners, like the recipients of this year's Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award, Selma Raven and Sara Allen with The Friendly Fridge BX, and the recipient of this year's Cultivating the Bronx Award, the Courts of Dreams Junior Board, for their endeavors.

On behalf of the constituents in the 15th Congressional District, I commend the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance for their great and continued contributions to the people of New York City and wish everyone many more years of success.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ritchie Torres".

Ritchie Torres
Member of Congress
NY-15, The Bronx





THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
NEW YORK, NY 10007

May 11, 2023

Dear Friends:

It gives me great pleasure to welcome everyone as the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance (VCPA) hosts its Springtime Shindig.

Van Cortlandt Park is the third largest park in our great city, with more than a thousand acres featuring expansive fields, an athletic stadium, hiking trails through verdant forests, a freshwater lake, tennis courts, a golf course, and the oldest surviving home in the Bronx. I am truly grateful to VCPA for its efforts to preserve and improve this vital natural treasure, especially its longstanding advocacy for rerouting Tibbets Brook above ground, a major climate infrastructure project that my Administration proudly supports and has taken bold steps to finally move forward. The Alliance also inspires New Yorkers of all ages and backgrounds through its cultural, educational, ecological, and recreational programs. Tonight's event will benefit its important initiatives, and it provides an opportunity to applaud the dedicated leadership, staff, and volunteers of this outstanding organization for their commitment to cultivate community and environmental stewardship in this diverse borough. I look forward to the many ways everyone gathered will further invigorate New York as we unite to #GetStuffDone and forge a greener, healthier, more resilient future for all.

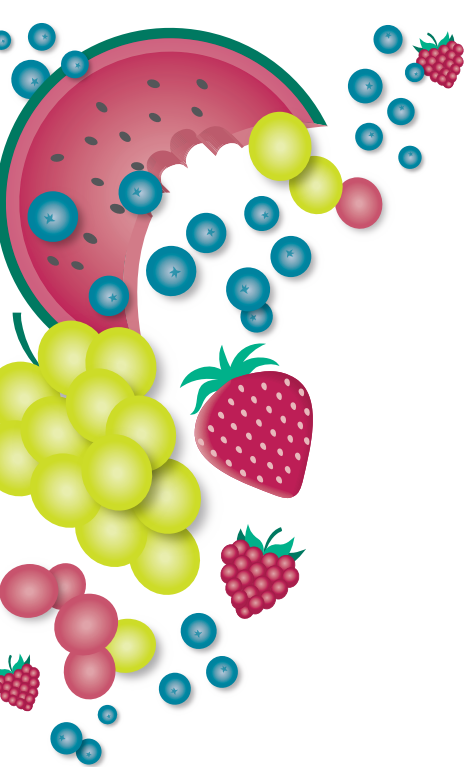
On behalf of the City of New York, congratulations to this year's honorees: the Friendly Fridge BX and the Courts of Dreams Junior Board. Please accept my best wishes for a festive evening and continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eric Adams".

Eric Adams
Mayor

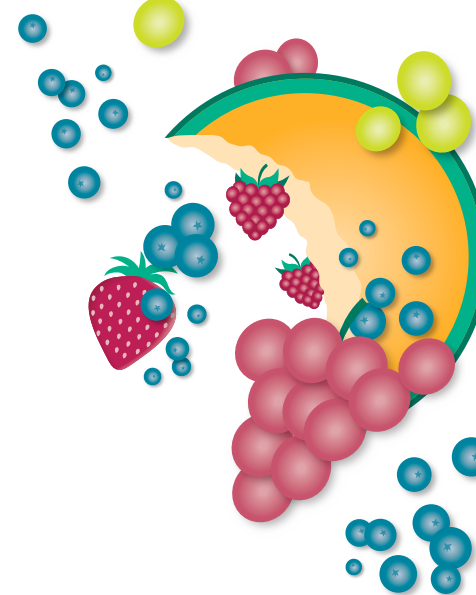




SENATOR
GUSTAVO RIVERA
33RD DISTRICT



CHAIRMAN, MAJORITY MEMBER
HEALTH
COMMITTEES:
ALCOHOLISM AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE
CRIME VICTIMS, CRIME AND CORRECTION
FINANCE
HIGHER EDUCATION
HOUSING, CONSTRUCTION AND
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MENTAL HEALTH



May 1, 2023

To the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance,

I am pleased to write this letter in celebration of the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's Spring Shindig. I commend the commitment you have demonstrated to our community. For years, Van Cortlandt Park Alliance has provided space at the annual benefit dinner to recognize individuals and organizations that work to uplift the Bronx.

It is my pleasure to join the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance in congratulating Selma Raven and Sara Allen of The Friendly Fridge Bronx as the recipients of this year's Betty Cambell-Adams Park Angel Award. This award honors individuals with a longstanding dedication and betterment of the Van Cortlandt Park community.

The Friendly Fridge Bronx has demonstrated its dedication through leading programming to replenish lost food resources in the local neighborhood following the closure of the local food pantry. Selma Raven's and Sara Allen's efforts to uplift the Bronx have been relentless since 2020, redirecting food to the tables of those who need it the most since the height of the pandemic. Today, The Friendly Fridge has grown to serve over three hundred individuals daily.

I wholeheartedly congratulate Selma Raven and Sara Allen for the hard-earned award. I am sure their determination and integrity will bring The Friendly Fridge Bronx to new heights and serve as an example for mutual aid and food relief projects across New York.

Respectfully,

Gustavo Rivera
33rd Senate District





JEFFREY DINOWITZ
Assemblyman 81st District
Bronx County

THE ASSEMBLY
STATE OF NEW YORK
ALBANY

CHAIRMAN
Codes Committee

COMMITTEES
Rules
Ways and Means
Health
Election Law

MEMBER
Puerto Rican/Hispanic Task Force

CHAIRMAN
Bronx Delegation

May 11, 2023

Dear Fellow Supporters of Van Cortlandt Park Alliance:

The Van Cortlandt Park Alliance has been an invaluable resource for everyone in our community. I am proud to support this wonderful organization, and the work you do in support of Van Cortlandt Park - the greatest park in the greatest city. It is my privilege to congratulate this year's honorees at the Springtime Shindig: The Friendly Fridge and Courts of Dreams Junior Board

The Friendly Fridge BX co-founders Sara Allen and Selma Raven will be presented with the Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award for their community efforts during the pandemic. The Friendly Fridge is located across the street from the park and has been paramount in combatting food insecurity in the community.

The Courts of Dreams Junior Board, a group of young adults, have dedicated an immeasurable amount of time and effort to refurbishing neighborhood basketball courts. Additionally, they raised significant funds in 2022 to repave the basketball courts on the Woodlawn side of the park.

Tonight's honorees have dedicated themselves to supporting our borough and, just like the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance, we should all be incredibly proud of their accomplishments.

Thank you and congratulations again to the Friendly Fridge BX and Courts of Dreams Junior Board for all their efforts over the years, and to Van Cortlandt Park Alliance, its board, and staff for their ongoing work on behalf of the people of the Bronx. We are exceedingly fortunate to have such a tremendously positive force for our community, and I look forward to continued success and partnership for years to come.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey Dinowitz
Member of Assembly





BRONX BOROUGH PRESIDENT VANESSA L. GIBSON

March 27, 2023

Stephanie Ehrlich
Executive Director and Van Cortlandt Park Administrator
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
80 Van Cortlandt Park
Bronx, NY 10463

Dear Stephanie Ehrlich,

Congratulations to you and to the entire Van Cortlandt Park Alliance team as you celebrate your Springtime Shindig benefit honoring some amazing community leaders!

I want to recognize co-founders of The Friendly Fridge BX, Selma Raven and Sara Allen who are recipients of the Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award; and Danny Cornstein, who is Chair of the Junior Board of Courts of Dreams, who will be receiving the Cultivating the Bronx Award.

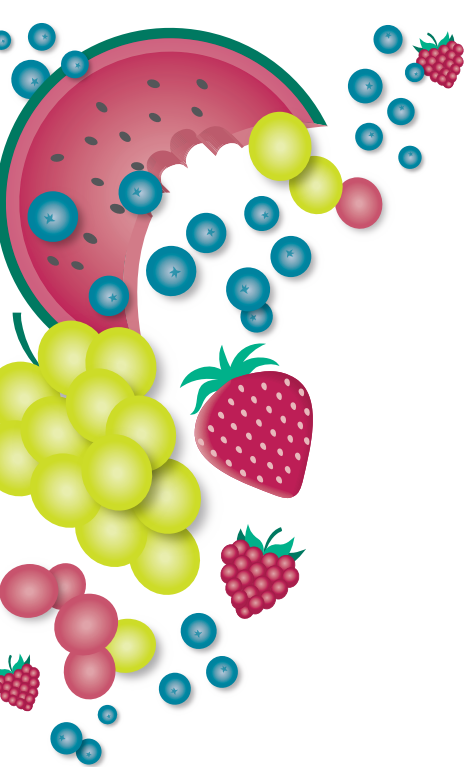
Your collective commitment to making Van Cortlandt Park and our entire borough a great place to live, work and recreate is evident through your programs that preserve, support, and promote the recreational, ecological and historical value of Van Cortlandt Park. Furthermore, your partnerships with organizations like the Friendly Fridge, Courts of Dreams and others make it clear that you are dedicated to making New York City's 3rd largest park, a destination that provides value to all who visit.

For all this, I want to express my gratitude to you and congratulations, once again!

Best regards,

Vanessa L. Gibson



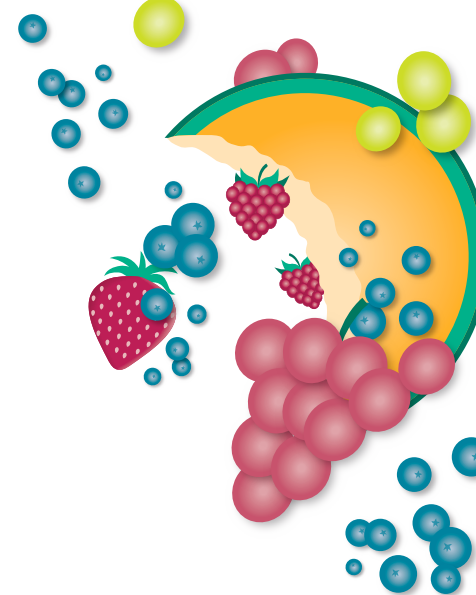


DISTRICT OFFICE
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Bronx, NY 10463
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FAX: (718) 549-9945
CITY HALL OFFICE
250 Broadway, Suite 1868
New York, NY 10007
TEL: (212) 788-7080
FAX: (212) 442-7827

Dinowitz@council.nyc.gov



CHAIR
Higher Education
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Bronx Delegation
COMMITTEES
Aging
Civil Service and Labor
Cultural Affairs, Libraries, and
International Intergroup Relations
Education
Housing and Buildings
Parks and Recreation
Standards and Ethics



May 11, 2023

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
80 Van Cortlandt Park South, Suite E1
Bronx, NY 10463

Dear Van Cortlandt Park Alliance Members:

I am writing to congratulate, and celebrate the Van Cortlandt Park Alliance on your Springtime Shindig! It is a time to reflect on all of your work and be proud of everything you have accomplished.

Our great borough of The Bronx is striving to reach its full potential, and organizations such as yours have played a key role in our success, aiding in the transformative change The Bronx has seen in recent years. The Van Cortlandt Park Alliance has played a significant role in enhancing the natural beauty of The Bronx. I look forward to helping your institution continue its mission of preserving, supporting, and promoting the recreational, ecological, and historical value of Van Cortlandt Park.

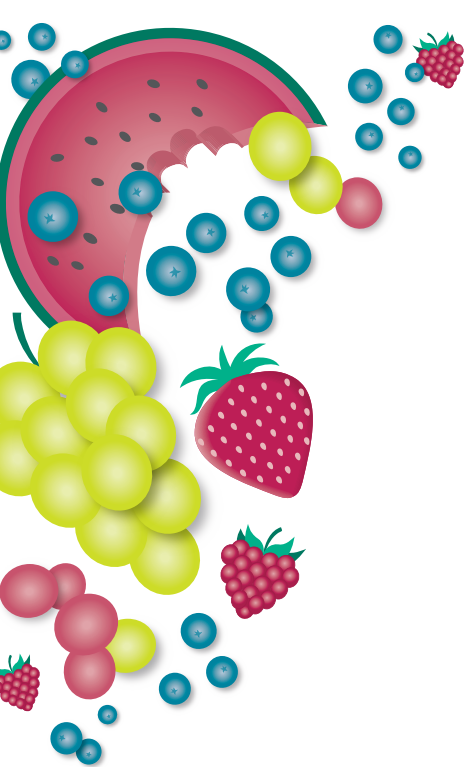
I offer my most heartfelt congratulations to your honorees – The Friendly Fridge BX, Selma Raven, and Sara Allen, the recipients of this year's Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award, and Courts of Dreams Junior Board, the recipient of this year's Cultivating the Bronx Award—for devoting countless hours and working hard to help The Bronx and our community flourish.

On behalf of the more than 1.4 million residents of The Bronx, I salute Van Cortlandt Park Alliance and your honorees, wishing you continued success in your future endeavors.

Sincerely,

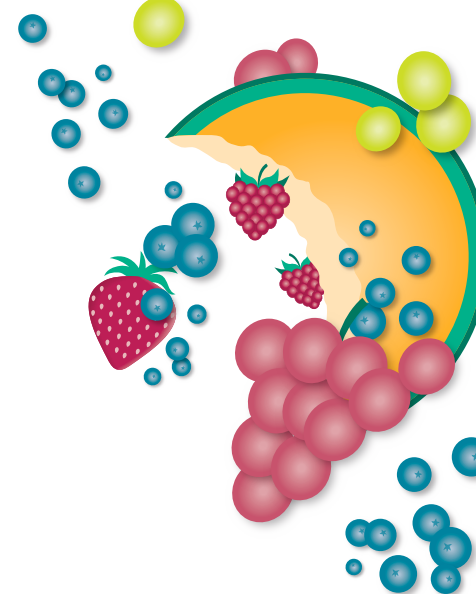
Eric Dinowitz
Council Member, District 11, Bronx





Susan M. Donoghue
Commissioner

City of New York
Parks & Recreation
The Arsenal
Central Park
New York, NY 10065
nyc.gov/parks



To Van Cortlandt Park Alliance, its Supporters and Benefactors,

We are so proud to join you in celebrating Van Cortlandt Park Alliance – our partner in Van Cortlandt Park – for its preservation and promotion of the park’s vast resources, which ensure the park’s continuing recreational, ecological, and historical value.

I am pleased to join you in congratulating this year’s honorees: **The Friendly Fridge BX, led by Selma Raven and Sara Allen**, the recipients of this year’s *Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award* and **Courts of Dreams Junior Board**, the recipient of this year’s *Cultivating the Bronx Award*.

Tonight’s “Springtime Shindig” supports Van Cortlandt Park Alliance’s youth internships, school programs, ecological restoration, recreational activities, field and trail maintenance, volunteer and stewardship programs, as well as cultural, historical, and arts programs.

Thank you for your support of VCPA’s work to ensure Van Cortlandt Park is a welcoming oasis for the three million people who visit each year.

I hope you all have a wonderful evening in the park!

Sincerely,

Sue Donoghue



van cortlandt
park alliance

van cortlandt
park alliance

Please Do Not Touch

Plant Facts: A plant is a living organism that has the ability to grow from a seed or spore. Plants are found everywhere and are essential for life on Earth. They provide food, oxygen, and shelter for many animals. Plants also play a role in the water cycle and the carbon cycle.

Common Bladderwort (Utricularia vulgaris): This small, aquatic plant is found in shallow water. It has a unique way of catching its food. It uses a small, bladder-like trap to suck in small animals like insects. The trap then closes, trapping the prey inside. The plant then digests the prey and absorbs the nutrients.

Plant Facts: Plants are living organisms that have the ability to grow from a seed or spore. They are found everywhere and are essential for life on Earth. They provide food, oxygen, and shelter for many animals. Plants also play a role in the water cycle and the carbon cycle.



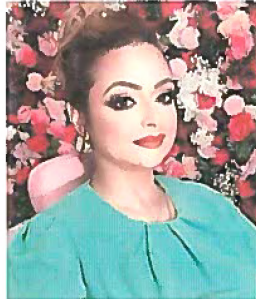
Jessenia Aponte
Borough Commissioner
Bronx

T 718.430.1801
F 718.430.1818

E Jessenia.aponte@parks.nyc.gov

City of New York
Parks & Recreation

Ranaqua
1 Bronx River Parkway
Bronx, NY 10462
www.nyc.gov/parks



To Van Cortlandt Park Alliance board, staff, and supporters,

Congratulations on another successful year in Van Cortlandt Park!

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's partnership with NYC Parks is essential, ensuring that the park is always clean, safe, and welcoming to all. Thank you for all you do on behalf of the Alliance and the park.

In addition to managing youth education, volunteer activities, restoration efforts, cultural events, and arts programming in the park, VCPA's advocacy efforts have made Daylighting Tibbetts Brook a reality after years of advocacy—on behalf of and with you—the community.

This really is a moment for celebration!

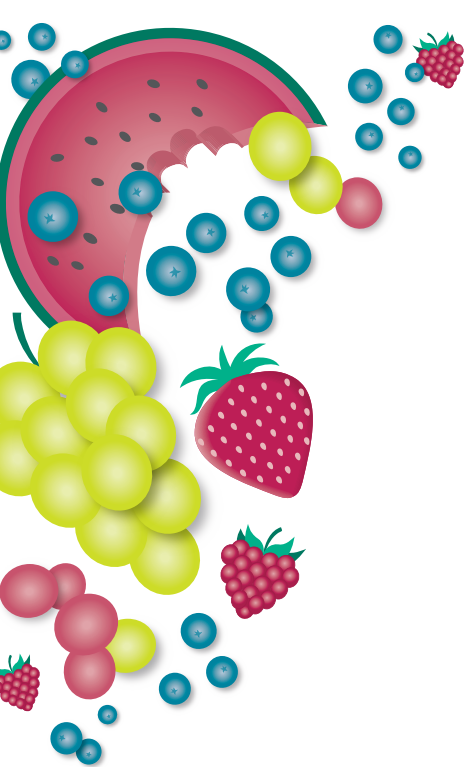
I am delighted to have this opportunity to congratulate this year's honorees: **The Friendly Fridge BX**, led by **Selma Raven and Sara Allen**, the recipients of this year's *Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award* and **Courts of Dreams Junior Board**, the recipient of this year's *Cultivating the Bronx Award*.

Thank you for caring about Van Cortlandt Park, one of the jewels of the Bronx.
Enjoy the party!

Sincerely,

Jessenia Aponte
Bronx Borough Commissioner





BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD 8

5676 Riverdale Avenue ♦ Suite 100 ♦ Bronx, New York 10471-2194
P: (718) 884-3959 F: (718) 796-2763 | E: bx08@cb.nyc.gov
<https://cbbronx.cityofnewyork.us/cb8/>



Laura Spalter, Chairperson

Vacant, District Manager

April 10, 2023

OFFICERS:

Vice Chairperson
Bob Bender

Secretary
Robert Jacklosky

Treasurer
Scott Krompinger

Stephanie Ehrlich
Executive Director and Van Cortlandt Park Administrator
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
80 Van Cortlandt Park South
Bronx, NY 10463

Dear Stephanie,

COMMITTEE CHAIRS:

Aging
Lisa Daub

Budget
David Gellman

Economic Development
Nicholas R. Fazio

**Education, Libraries &
Cultural Affairs**
Sylvia Alexander

Environment & Sanitation
Dr. Camelia Tepelus

**Health, Hospitals &
Social Services**
Omar Murray

Housing
Lee Chong

Land Use
Charles G. Moerdler

Law, Rules & Ethics
Martin Wolpoff

Parks & Recreation
Debra Travis

Public Safety
Edward Green

Traffic & Transportation
Kelli Buford

Youth
Dr. Julia Gomez

On behalf of Community Board 8, we would like to extend our heartfelt congratulations to The Friendly Fridge BX, Selma Raven and Sara Allen for being honored with this year's Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award. We are also delighted to hear that the Courts of Dreams Junior Board has been recognized with the Cultivating the Bronx Award.

It is with great admiration and appreciation that we write this letter to express our gratitude for the work that each of these honorees has done for our community. The Friendly Fridge BX has been a beacon of hope for many families struggling with food insecurity. Through their work, Selma Raven and Sara Allen, have made reminded us all of the importance of mutual aid. The Courts of Dreams Junior Board has shown remarkable dedication to the development of youth in the Bronx and we greatly appreciate their contributions to restoring the Woodlawn Playground last year and all of their work around the Bronx.

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's efforts in recognizing and celebrating these individuals and groups are commendable. We believe that their work has made a significant impact on our community, and their contributions are truly deserving of recognition. The Alliance's commitment as well to preserving and enhancing the beauty of Van Cortlandt Park is essential, and we thank you for your unwavering dedication.

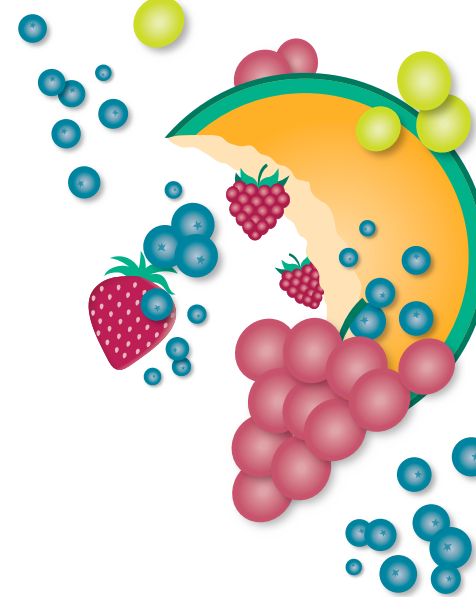
We are confident that your Spring Shindig will be a resounding success. We extend our warmest wishes to you and all the honorees for a fantastic event.

Thank you for your hard work and dedication to our community.

Sincerely,

Laura Spalter, Chair
Bronx Community Board 8

Deb Travis, Chair
Bronx Community Board Parks Committee







Mission

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's mission is to preserve, support, and promote the recreational, ecological, and historical value of Van Cortlandt Park.

VCPA's goals are to provide cultural, recreational, educational, and community programming in the park, generate public attention to the park's assets, and increase investments in maintenance, protection, and improvement of the park's recreational and natural areas.

VCPA offers youth internships, school programs, volunteer stewardship programs, and cultural programming. As NYC Parks' sole partner in Van Cortlandt Park, VCPA raises funds to support maintenance of the park's fields and trails, including the famous 100-year-old Cross-Country Trail.

Your support of the Springtime Shindig makes all of this possible!



Major Funders

Foundation & Corporate Support

Altman Foundation

Altice USA

Bronx Council for Environmental Quality

BronxCares

Carter, Ledyard & Milburn

Collegiate School

Con Edison

Courts of Dreams

Dr. Robert & Tina Sohn Foundation

Ethical Culture Fieldston School

Fordham Prep

Fordham University

Fullgraf Foundation

Horace Mann School

Jockey Hollow Foundation

Laura J. Niles Foundation

Lemle & Wolff

Lily Auchincloss Foundation

Lloyd's Carrot Cake

Montefiore Einstein

New York Road Runners

NYC Green Relief & Recovery Fund

Patagonia

Ridgewood Savings Bank

Riverdale Country School

Riverdale Orthodontics

SAR Academy/SAR High School

Sarah K. de Coizart Article TENTH

Perpetual Charitable Trust

Schollerman Foundation

SMPS Family Fund

STAGG Group

The Calhoun School

The City Gardens Club of NYC

The Edward G. and Sheri F. Leonard Fund

The Hyde and Watson Foundation

The New Yankee Stadium Community
Benefits Fund

The New York Community Trust

Timber Equities

Tishman Speyer

Urban Forestry Organization

Valentine Perry Snyder Fund

Whole Foods Market -
Community Giving Program

Government Support

NYC Council

NYS Council on the Arts

NYS Department of Environmental Conservation

U.S. Department of Agriculture

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

VCPA's cultural programs are supported, in part, by public funds from
the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs in partnership with the New York City Council.



Partners

Van Cortlandt Park Alliance is proud to partner with NYC agencies, local academic institutions, and non-profit organizations.

Beam Center	Lehman College
Bronx Arts Ensemble	Manhattan College
Bronx Council for Environmental Quality	Natural Areas Conservancy
Calhoun School	NY Road Runners
City As Living Laboratory	Riverdale Country School
Courts of Dreams	Riverdale Main Streets Alliance
Fieldston Ethical Culture School	Riverdale Neighborhood House
Friendly Fridge BX	SAR Academy / SAR High School
GroundWork Hudson Valley	Van Cortlandt House Museum
GrowNYC	Van Cortlandt Track Club
Horace Mann School	Women of Woodlawn
Kingsbridge Historical Society	Woodlawn Collective
KRVC	Woodlawn Taxpayers Association

Special Shout-out:

NYC Parks
NYPD 50th Precinct
DSNY - Compost Project at NYBG
NYC DEP
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VAN CORTLANDT PARK ■ BRONX, NY











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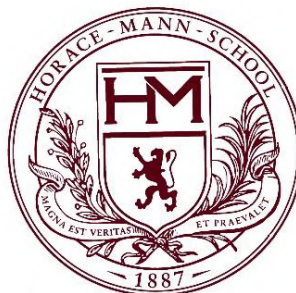


The background features several stylized green leaves and ferns. On the left, a large, elongated leaf with prominent veins curves upwards. In the top center, a cluster of fern fronds is arranged in a fan-like pattern. To the right, a large, multi-lobed leaf, similar to a maple leaf, is positioned. In the bottom left, there is a five-lobed leaf, and in the bottom right, a smaller, three-lobed leaf is visible. All these elements are rendered in a light green color with white outlines for the veins.

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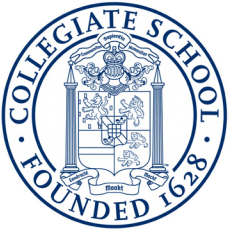
honoring

Courts of Dreams Junior Board & The Friendly Fridge BX

Thomas M. Kelly, PhD
Head of School
Horace Mann School
231 West 246 Street
Bronx, NY 10471



Outta Sight Oak



In memory of
George Calano

Collegiate School's revered
Director of Physical Education and Athletics
He loved training and competing in Van Cortlandt Park.

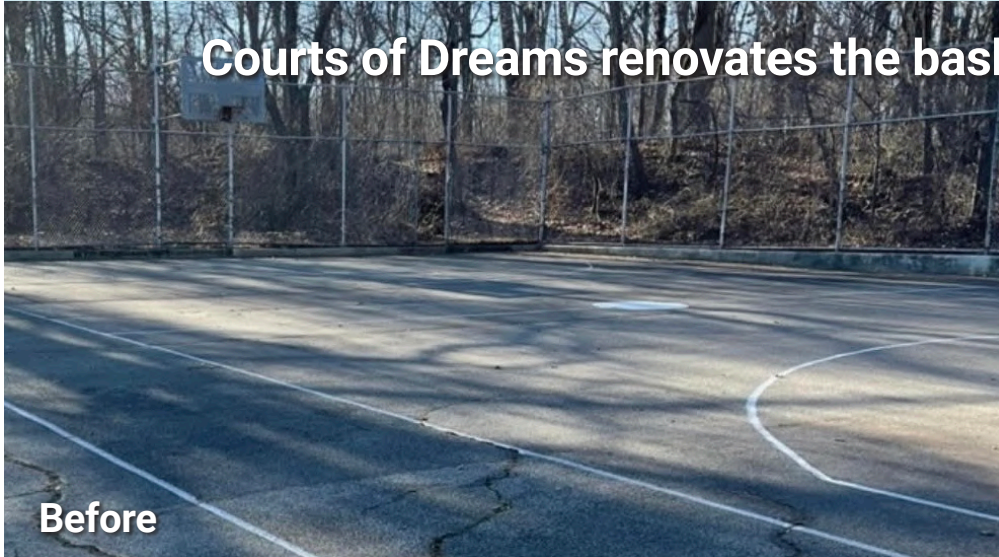


Collegiate School thanks
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
for all they do to keep the park's
fields and trails safe and clean.



COURTS OF DREAMS

Courts of Dreams renovates the basketball court in Woodlawn Playground



Thank You


Van Cortlandt Park Alliance for our rewarding partnership
and

Dr. Thomas M. Kelly for all of his support

Congratulations

The Friendly Fridge BX

Betty Campbell-Adams Park Angel Award recipient



My heartfelt congratulations
to the honorees:

**Danny Cornstein,
Sara Allen, and
Selma Raven.**

And, my deepest thanks to the
Board and Staff of VCPA
for another amazing year!

*With respect and gratitude,
Stephanie Ehrlich
Executive Director*



ECFS is a proud supporter of the
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance and celebrates their
dedication to community centered programming.



**Ethical Culture
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The core of Ethical Culture Fieldston School's educational program is the study and practice of ethics, which prepares and compels us to take care of our world, ourselves, and each other.



Montefiore Einstein proudly supports Van Cortlandt Park Alliance.

Thank you for your efforts to preserve and share all the beauty this historic park has to offer.

We congratulate the honorees who have helped the Alliance pursue its worthy mission.

Montefiore Einstein





**Congratulations to
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's
Guests of Honor**

Court of Dreams Junior Board

The Friendly Fridge BX Co-Founders


SAR Academy and High School are proud to salute the
invaluable work these community partners do on behalf of
so many in the Bronx.


Rabbi Binyamin Krauss (AC'84), Principal, SAR Academy
Rabbi Tully Harcsztark, Principal, SAR High School;
Dean, Machon Siach
Rabbi Jonathan Kroll, Principal, SAR High School
Jack C. Bendheim, President



Congratulations
Courts of Dreams Junior Board
The Friendly Fridge BX
and
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
for a great year in the park.

Lee Sossen and Sherri Williams





Congratulations to the
staff and board of VCPA!
Thank you for your dedication
and leadership.

Parke Spencer and Nina Habib Spencer



Mellow Mountain Laurel

We would like to congratulate
**Danny Cornstein &
The Courts of Dreams
Junior Board**
on receiving the
“Cultivating the Bronx Award”



*With love from
your proud grandparents
Bama & Pop Pop
Ima & Poppy*

**Thank you
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance**
for making the park a
welcoming place
for everyone.
and
**Congratulations
Courts of Dreams Junior Board**
and
The Friendly Fridge BX
For everything you do
for our Bronx Community

*your friends at
Groundwork Hudson Valley*



Congratulations
VCPA's Springtime Shindig Honorees
Courts of Dreams Junior Board
The Friendly Fridge BX

And

Stephanie Ehrlich,
VCPA Executive Director

For another year of great leadership

Kathryn and Vincent G. Heintz


Manhattan College
is happy to
partner with the
**Van Cortlandt
Park Alliance.**



**MANHATTAN
COLLEGE**



Congratulations
VCPA
on all your great work!



John Park and Jeanne Jang



Congratulations to
Courts of Dreams
and the Junior Board
on your accomplishments
in the Bronx community.

Rachel and Rob Phillips



Far Out Fern



Congratulations
to this year's Honorees
Courts of Dreams Junior Board
The Friendly Fridge BX

Thank You

Stephanie Ehrlich,
VCPA Executive Director
For everything she does
for Van Cortlandt Park

and

A warm welcome to
VCPA's new board members

**"I ain't never been
to the country
unless you count
Van Cortlandt Park."**

— E. L. Doctorow
Billy Bathgate

Bob Bender and Loretta Nash

**Special Citizens
& the Berger-Gross Family**

salute

Van Cortlandt Park Staff



SCFU

*Serving Adults with Autism
in the Bronx & Metro*

**Congratulations
to the Honorees**

Heather Erhard and Andy Cohen



Congratulations
to
Courts of Dreams Junior Board
and to
The Friendly Fridge BX.
You make the Bronx a better place!

Linda Cox and John Robinson

Judy Mills-Johnson
Congratulates this year's honorees
Courts of Dreams Junior Board
The Friendly Fridge BX
For their commitment
to the community
and
Stephanie Ehrlich,
VCPA's Executive Director
For her extraordinary leadership
and
the staff of Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
for their exceptional dedication
and hard work.



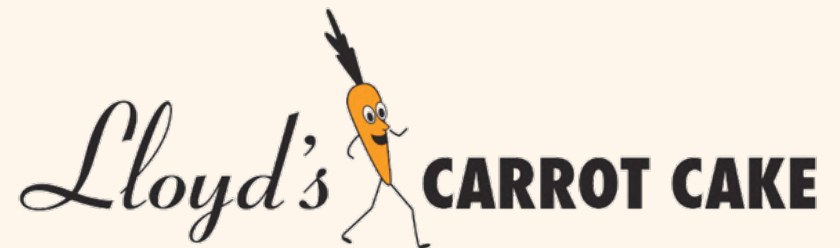
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Riverdale Country School adds its
congratulations and thanks to
the **Courts of Dreams Junior Board**
and **Selma Raven and Sara Allen**
of the **Friendly Fridge BX.**

Thank you for your service to our
Bronx community.



Please join me in
congratulating our honorees
The Courts of Dreams Junior Board
and
Founders of the Friendly Fridge BX.

Each of these organizations
provide an invaluable service
to the families who patronize
Van Cortlandt Park, and we are
grateful for their generous
contributions to our community.

Charlie E. Samboy
VCPA Board Chair



Congratulations

VCPA

on 4 years of
continued success!
Better Together!

Carol J. Samol



Sandra and James Seo
congratulate

**Court of Dreams Junior Board &
The Friendly Fridge BX**

for their outstanding work
in our community.


We are proud to support
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance.



Congratulations Honorees

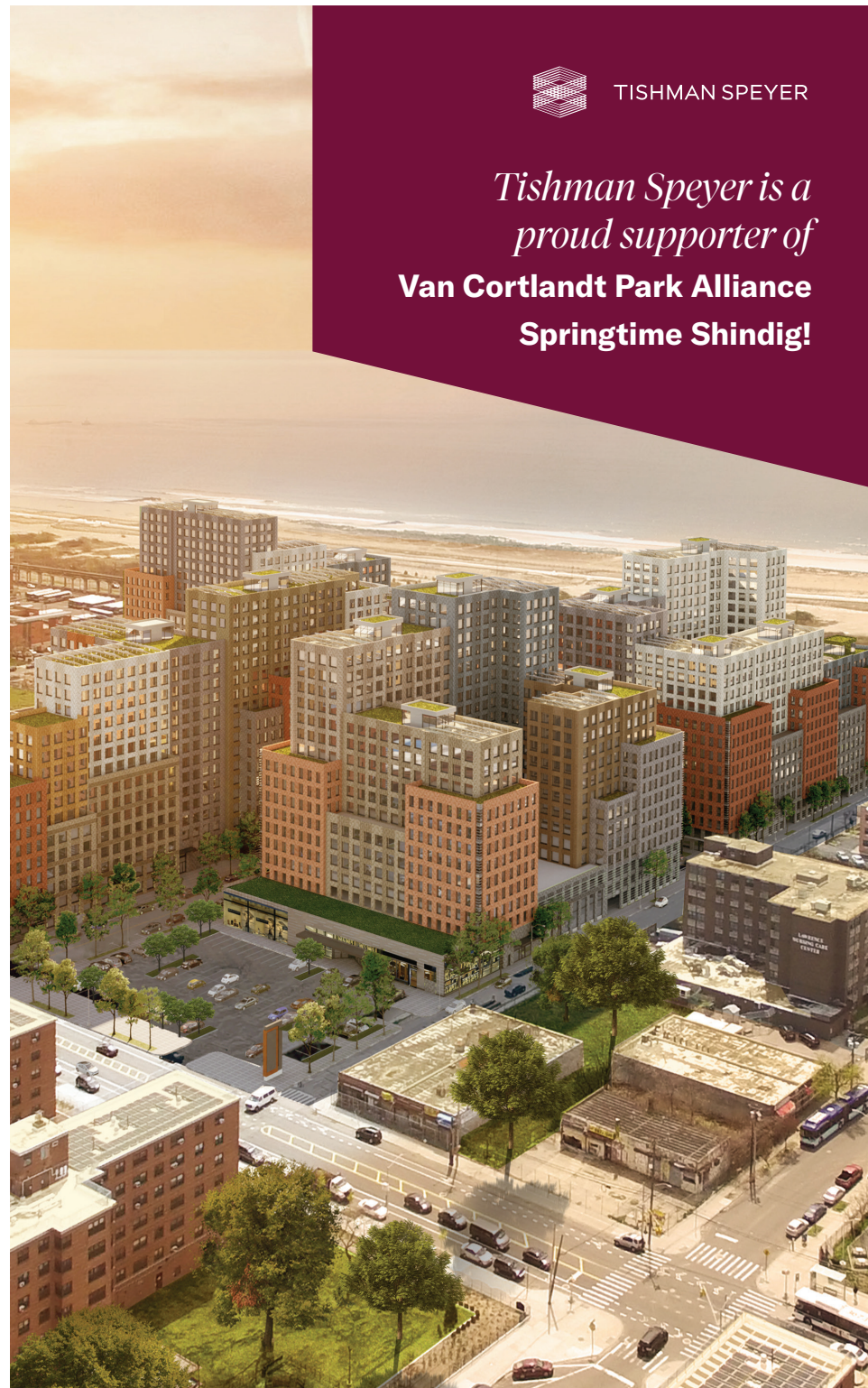
for your commitment to the
Community and Parks Service.

*From Marvin Shandler and
Linda Shandler Friedman,
proud supporters of the
Allen Shandler Recreation Area
and programs for youth in the Park*



TISHMAN SPEYER

*Tishman Speyer is a
proud supporter of*
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
Springtime Shindig!





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**Van Cortlandt
Park Alliance**
for Keeping it Green!

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Congratulates the
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Courts of Dreams Junior Board
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Thank You
Van Cortlandt Park Alliance
for all you do in the park

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The Club of Riverdale

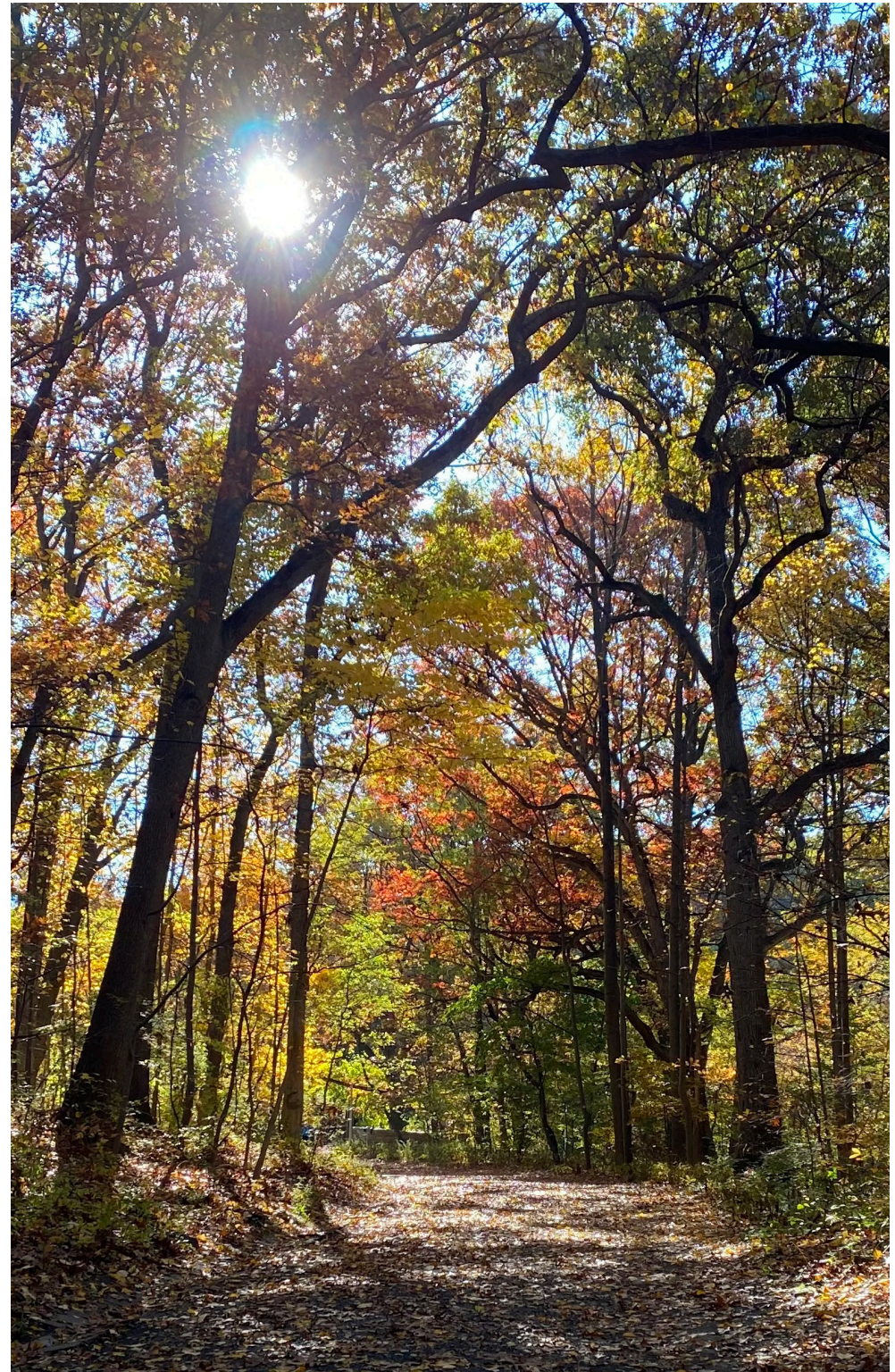
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Van Cortlandt Golf Course



Photo Credits

Josh Cuppek Photography

Stephanie Ehrlich

Malcolm Pinckney

Christina Taylor

Proceeds from the **Springtime Shindig** support Van Cortlandt Park Alliance's education, restoration, research, and community stewardship programs. Van Cortlandt Park Alliance works in close partnership with NYC Parks to preserve, support, and promote the recreational, ecological, and historical value of the park.

To learn more: vancortlandt.org

Follow us!
[@vcpalliance](https://twitter.com/vcpalliance)



