

# HEAT BEAT

HYDRANT EDUCATION ACTION TEAM

## HEAT Team Supporters are helping to make a difference in our communities!

### Week in Review

This week, after the Community Board 4 team gathered near the intersection of 169th Street and the Edward L. Grant Highway, a call was placed to 311 to report an illegally opened fire hydrant. The Community Board 4 team revisited the neighborhood later that week and found that the previously illegally-opened fire hydrant was now closed reducing water waste.



At a visit to the East Bronx Senior Center and the Highbridge Advisory Senior Center, senior citizens expressed to the HEAT youth advocates their appreciation for the work they do. They shared how they have had to deal with low water pressure in their homes due to illegally opened hydrants, which has limited their day-to-day activities such as cleaning, bathing, and cooking. One Highbridge resident expressed their feelings about these issues, saying, "Having no water is no way to live!"

Also this week, the Community Board 12B team visited the YUM Food Market to seek support in spreading the HEAT message. The market personnel were extremely welcoming and were willing to post HEAT flyers in their business.

Restaurant owners like 2 Brothers Pizza & Pasta and Kennedy Fried Chicken on East Fordham Road near the Grand Concourse have also experienced low water pressure due to illegally opened hydrants, which has affected their businesses as well. They also agreed to support hydrant education advocacy by posting HEAT signage in their windows.



### Upcoming Events

JULY 2013

*July 29:* Dominican Women's DEV Center

*Location:* Jay Hood Wright Park Playground

*July 30:* Aqueduct Lands Playground

*Location:* West 183<sup>rd</sup> street Aqueduct Avenue

*July 31:* Part of the Solution

*Location:* 2759 Webster Avenue

*Time:* 11:00AM

*August 1:* New York City Housing Senior Center

*Location:* 3754 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue

*Time:* 10:30AM

*August 2:* Highbridge Library

*Location:* 78 West 168<sup>th</sup> street Jerome Avenue

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## Interview

This week, the Community Board 5 team met with Fireman O'Connor from Engine 75 Ladder 33, who has served as a firefighter for six-and-a-half years. After commending our team for our work in the community, he recalled an emergency in which he and his fellow firemen were sent in teams to close open fire hydrants in order to increase the water pressure needed to fight a blazing fire.



## Public Opinion

The HEAT Teams improve the quality of life for area communities. Local resident Linda Seward said, "I was very upset about the open fire hydrants in the past because I wasn't able to wash the dishes! Every time I tried turning on the faucet I only got drops of water!" When fire hydrants are opened properly with a spray cap, normal water pressure is maintained.

## Did You Know?

There are approximately 109,000 fire hydrants throughout the five boroughs in New York City.



## Meet Our HEAT Elites!



Tavon Scipio CB4 Team

*"While being in the HEAT program, I suddenly realized how much waste takes place when a fire hydrant is illegally opened. I love being able to voice my own opinion and be able to listen to others to end up helping the community as a whole."*



Ismael Ellington CB5 Team

*"Being on the HEAT Team has been a really positive experience. I've learned how to work in a team, which I have never done before. I have definitely been outside of my comfort zone talking to people I've never met before, but the experience is helping me grow as a person."*

**The Hydrant Education Action Team (HEAT) is jointly sponsored by:**

**The purpose of HEAT is to educate community residents and stakeholders about the problems surrounding the illegal use of fire hydrants.**

