



**Our West 68th Street New Block Banner Proudly Displayed at the Spring Party**  
(designed by David and Michele Harris)

Yes, it has been a sensational spring and summer -- thanks to YOU !  
The Leadership Steering Committee invites you to catch up here and see what's planned ahead.

## ***Save the Date***

***Saturday, September 12, 2015***  
***Annual Community Block Party***  
***11 am to 5 pm***  
***Broadway to Columbus Avenue***  
***A Fun Filled Day for Adults & Kids***

**bounce houses**

**craft tables**

**face painters**

**balloon twisters**

**DJ**

**line dancing**

**cyber security workshops**

**neighbors' tag sale tables**

**live afternoon concert**

**GIANT \$1 RAFFLE with grand prize from LOWE'S Home Improvement**

**PLAN TO JOIN THE FUN !**

## **The 2015 Spring Block Party**

*was held on Sunday, April 26, between Columbus Avenue and Central Park West. Participants came from all of West 68th St, between Amsterdam Ave and CPW.*

*The Party featured kids bounce house, square dancing, BBQ, raffle, and of course face painting for all. Everyone had a great time and was greeted by ELMO. The premium food was especially delicious. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer added good cheer.*



*View more fun photos at this open link:  
<https://flic.kr/s/aHskdJA6h1>*

## **Block Spring Planting**

*was kicked off with a BBQ on June 6. Planting Day was made possible by the generous contribution of 53 W 68<sup>th</sup> St of all flowers for the tree pits between CPW and Columbus Ave. Our co-ops, condos and larger buildings contribute funds and help keep our street looking nice in many ways. The largest buildings do their own landscaping. Joining us was City Council Member Helen Rosenthal.*



*View more fun photos at this open link:  
<https://flic.kr/s/aHskgTEXcV>*

## **APPLAUD THE VOLUNTEERS**

*by taking a moment to go through the list of volunteers and steering committee members. Find someone you know and thank them in some way. You may not be able to help out at this time but show you care by acknowledging their effort. If you are in a co-op or condo then do express your appreciation to your board. We thank you for this !*

*West 68th Street would not be as nice a place for us to share without these efforts.*

*.VOLUNTEERS & LEADERS.*

*Our HONOR ROLL*

*Proudly Displayed Here*

*Together with*

*Finances*

*View all at this open link  
<https://flic.kr/s/aHskhfhQqs>*

## **Join the successful leadership team !**

**Is your Block Association doing a good job?  
If you say yes then join the winning  
leadership steering committee.**

### **Areas for participation**

- **a delegate from your building**
- **event planning**
- **social media and communication**
- **treasury**
- **beautification and environmental concerns**
- **elderly**
- **pets**
- **business liaisons**

**Consider this record of association growth:**

- **expanded the association to include Amsterdam to Columbus Avenues**
- **includes all seven co-ops & condos along W 68<sup>th</sup> St**
- **incorporates our 3 religious institutions as well as York Prep**
- **has created partnerships with area business & property owners**
- **has conducted 8 major events in 2 years**
- **has become a forceful voice for W 68<sup>th</sup> Street**

## **Environmental Concerns**

### **Trees and Rodents**

**Leaves with holes and turning white are being reported by many. At this time of year this can be a typical caterpillar eating occurrence which can completely defoliate the tree. Healthy trees will regrow their leaves. None the less the Parks' Dept is being questioned on possible courses of action.**

**Rats had become very prominent in June especially off the eastern Columbus Ave corner. Rat seminars were attended, the Health Dept was recruited, and property owners eliminated nesting and feeding areas. A unified effort around Block Association involvement has substantially reduced this pest population. Please report rat observations to the association immediately at [w68info@aol.com](mailto:w68info@aol.com).**



## **LOWE'S Opening Schedule**

**Our new neighbor at the corner of West 68th St and Broadway has provided us with the following schedule:**

**August 17, the doors will open with no fan fare.**

**Sept 10, ribbon cutting festivities. Block Association Steering Committee invited.**

**Sept 12, in store Grand Opening Celebration**

**Lowe's has already begun to demonstrate their interest and commitment to the street by providing us with a volunteer at the Spring Block Party and by contributing a raffle prize. They pledge ongoing participation in the block association and have committed to the planting and maintenance of the tree pits in front of their store on West 68th Street.**

**We look forward to having them as a neighbor. Lowe's will also be contributing to the Block Association's Annual Community Block Party on September 12 (see above) to help make that event bigger and better than ever. Here are several links to articles about the new store:**

<http://www.westsiderag.com/2015/08/04/lowes-reveals-opening-date-new-store-format-will-be-first-in-nation>

<http://www.cnbc.com/2015/07/31/lowes-opening-two-manhattan-stores.html>

[http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20150803/REAL\\_ESTATE/150809984/to-build-buzz-for-its-new-manhattan-stores-lowes-uses-splashy#utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=cnyb-realestate&utm\\_campaign=cnyb-realestate-20150803](http://www.crainsnewyork.com/article/20150803/REAL_ESTATE/150809984/to-build-buzz-for-its-new-manhattan-stores-lowes-uses-splashy#utm_medium=email&utm_source=cnyb-realestate&utm_campaign=cnyb-realestate-20150803)

## **Stephen Wise Community Volunteer Program**

**Volunteers are always welcome for the nightly, agency organized shelter. Additional cooks and chaperones are sometimes needed. In addition there is the early Saturday morning breakfast give-a-way program also sometimes needing a helping hand.**

**Join us on facebook at the**

**west68thstreetblockassociation**

**See you there !**

**Wishing everyone a sizzlingly good remainder of the summer**

**(note both meat and vegan burgers)**



**THE WEST 68<sup>TH</sup> STREET BLOCK ASSOCIATION**

**POB 230673 NEW YORK, NY 10023**

**W68info@aol.com**

**917-417-1882**

**Fb: west68thstreetblockassociation**

**https://w68th.wordpress.com**

**The Association is incorporated under section 402 of the not-for-profit corporation law of New York and is run by a volunteer leadership committee.**