

StraitConnect

LITERACY · CULTURE · LOCAL SPACES

A NOTE FROM THE FOUNDER

June always brings a change of pace to the neighborhood.

The Family Fun Day at Shoelace Park on May 16 felt like an early reminder that summer is arriving. As the school year winds down, families across Northeast Bronx are asking: what meaningful spaces exist for our young people this summer? This month, StraitConnect spotlights those answers.

Deardire Gregg · Founder, StraitLeap

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SPOTLIGHT

Creating Space for What Comes Next

Council Member Kevin C. Riley · 12th District, Bronx

"Their work goes beyond traditional programming."

Council Member Riley and his team create youth opportunities centered on exposure, mentorship, and empowerment — from educational visits to TikTok HQ to financial literacy trips in Atlanta.

- **PowHer Circle:** Leadership development & confidence-building for young women.
- **Financial Literacy:** Civic engagement & practical tools through real-world workshops.
- **Spring Break Takeover:** Engaging opportunities & pathways to employment.
- **Exposure Trips:** TikTok HQ, Atlanta — expanding what youth see as possible.

Follow: [@cmkevincriley](#) on Instagram



Uptown Family Enrichment Center · 3535 Holland Ave, Bronx

WOMEN'S MENTORSHIP & NETWORKING NIGHT

The PowHer Circle

Northeast Bronx YMCA · March 31, 2026

The PowHer Circle brought together women from across the community for an evening of mentorship, networking, and real conversation — organized by Council Member Riley's team.



Event hosts presenting at the Northeast Bronx YMCA · Photo: StraitLeap

COMMUNITY RESOURCE

Family Enrichment Centers

30 FECs across NYC support families before crises arise. Two serve Northeast Bronx:

- › **Uptown FEC**
3535 Holland Ave · @uptownfec
- › **Morris Park / Pelham Pkwy FEC**
Coming Soon

LEGACY CORNER

Green Garden Health Food Store

Williamsbridge & Wakefield · Serving the community since 1983 · Follow: [@greengardenhealthfood](#)

Green Garden has remained a steady source of wellness, education, and access for decades. Stop by the Juice Bar for cold-pressed juices and fresh sea moss — or seek expert guidance at the Herbal Apothecary. A living legacy that prioritized wellness before it was a trend.

- › **Families Who Stayed**
A living record of the community's resilience.
- › **Foundations of Health**
Prioritizing wellness before it was a trend.
- › **Stories That Survive**
Knowledge only years of presence can provide.

IN THE ROOMS · COMMUNITY MEETINGS

Where Everyday Voices Meet Decision-Makers

<p>COMMUNITY COUNCIL</p> <p>47th Precinct Community Council</p> <p>Neighborhood safety & policing priorities. facebook.com/47PCC</p>	<p>WORKING GROUP</p> <p>White Plains Road Working Group</p> <p>Housing, small businesses & transit. Voice to Vision</p>	<p>BRANCH MEETING</p> <p>NAACP Williamsbridge</p> <p>Civic advocacy & community equity. facebook.com/naacpwilliamsbridge</p>	<p>MONTHLY MEETING</p> <p>Bronx Community Board 12</p> <p>Williamsbridge, Wakefield, Woodlawn & Baychester. @bxc12connect</p>
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StraitConnect

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FEATURED EVENT RECAP

The Power of Her — PowHer Circle

Women-owned spaces showing up for each other. Connection, mentorship, and visibility in the same room.

Watch the full recap @straitleap



Full room view of The PowHer Circle · Photo: StraitLeap



Panelists and attendees in session · Photo: StraitLeap

WHAT'S COMING UP

June 2026 Community Events

Summer is getting started across the Northeast Bronx.

- JUN 6** COMMUNITY & CULTURE
Community Bazaar
Bronxwood Int'l Church · 3232 Lurting Ave · 9am–5pm
- JUN 6** COMMUNITY & CULTURE
Community Connect
4101 White Plains Rd · 1pm–4pm
- JUN 6** ARTS & COMMUNITY
Paint and Sip
Eastchester Rd Community Garden · 12pm–3pm
- JUN 6** HEALTH & FITNESS
Steps For Change 5K
Northeast Bronx YMCA · 9:30am

- JUN 6** HEALTH & WELLNESS
The 47 Link Up Spring Health Fair
1150 E. 229th St · 12pm–5pm
- JUN 10** COMMUNITY & SAFETY
47th Precinct Community Council
Bronx Bethany Church · 971 E. 227th St · 7pm
- JUN 13** YOUTH & LITERACY
Radiant Rebels: Read Alouds for Brave Kids
Nefer Bookcafé · 694 E. 241st St · 10am
- JUN 24** COMMUNITY RESOURCES
Food Distribution
959 E. 233rd St · 1pm–4pm

Full Calendar: straitleapbx.com/northeast-bronx-community-calendar →

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substack.com/@straitleap

NORTHEAST BRONX RESOURCES

Key Contacts

- CM Kevin C. Riley**
@cmkevincriley · 12th District · Youth programming, civic engagement & resources.
- Uptown FEC**
3535 Holland Ave · @uptownfec · 718-508-3077
- 47th Precinct Council**
facebook.com/47PCC
- NAACP Williamsbridge**
facebook.com/naacpwiliamsbridge
- Bronx CB12**
@bxc12connect on Instagram

UNTIL NEXT TIME

“Stories that don’t get told, don’t get remembered.”
— StraitLeap

StraitConnect exists because every neighbor deserves access to local stories — regardless of internet access. Please pass this on.

Read Digital: substack.com/@straitleap
Podcast: “Strait Leap into Conversation”

Building Stronger Communities Through Storytelling & Connections
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