



# Riverdale RiverFest 2014

Project of the Friends of the Hudson River Greenway in the Bronx

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **RIVERDALE TO HOST FIFTH ANNUAL RIVERFRONT FESTIVAL**

**JUNE 15 AT COLLEGE OF MOUNT SAINT VINCENT**

**Event Will Feature Boats, Music, Activities and Food**

A flotilla of ships will once again dock on the Riverdale waterfront for the fifth annual Riverdale RiverFest on Sunday, June 15, at the College of Mount Saint Vincent, Riverdale Ave. and West 263d St. in the Bronx, from noon to 6:00 p.m. Admission is free.

The fleet will include the Mystic Whaler, a reproduction of a late 19th century coastal cargo schooner; the sailing ship A.J. Meerwald, a two-masted Delaware Bay oyster schooner built in 1928; and the retired New York City fireboat John J. Harvey.

Rides on the Meerwald will be offered on Saturday, June 14, and on all three vessels on Sunday, June 15, for a nominal fee. Guaranteed reservations can be made on the Riverdale RiverFest Web site: [www.riverdaleRiverFest.org](http://www.riverdaleRiverFest.org).

Riverdale RiverFest will again feature non-stop live music by local performers on two stages; bounce castles, pony rides, circus performers, craft projects, and other activities for children; a greenmarket; and fantasy battles by the popular Society for Creative Anachronism, a local group of Renaissance re-creators. There will also be artists, craft vendors and numerous exhibits by local merchants, environmental organizations and local schools.

Festival organizers also promise a variety of foods to suit any taste, from traditional festival fare to ethnic specialties, as well as kosher and vegetarian options—and, of course, plenty of sweet treats.

In addition to celebrating and enjoying the Hudson River, the festival has a more ambitious agenda: to promote the Hudson River Greenway Link, a proposed walking and biking trail that will connect the existing Hudson River Greenway in Manhattan with the Old Croton Aqueduct Trail in Yonkers.

“Our neighborhood, Riverdale, has the word ‘river’ in it,” says head organizer Yael Levy, “yet most of us have no access to the river. Riverdale RiverFest gives people a glimpse of what access to the majestic Hudson River would be like. Ultimately, our goal is to open this amazing resource to everyone in our lifetime—not only so we can enjoy and appreciate its beauty, but for all the healthy lifestyle benefits a greenway will offer us and our children.”

The festival is organized and run entirely by community volunteers. Both the festival and the proposed three-mile waterfront route enjoy the active support of Senator Charles Schumer, all local and State-wide elected officials who serve the area, and Bronx Community Board 8. Riverdale Riverfest is endorsed by more than 50 community organizations, including the neighborhood's schools and religious institutions.

Complete information about Riverdale RiverFest 2014 is available on the festival's website: [www.riverdaleriverfest.org](http://www.riverdaleriverfest.org) and at [www.facebook.com/riverdale-riverfest-2014](https://www.facebook.com/riverdale-riverfest-2014).

More information about the Hudson River Greenway and the Greenway Link can be found at [www.greenwaylink.org](http://www.greenwaylink.org).

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