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Next RNA Meeting:
Tuesday, April 8th
at 7:30 PM

Location:
Harbor View Health Care Center
178 Ogden Avenue
1st Floor Cafeteria

Agenda:
Guest: Local food and gardening options - multiple guests
* Pulaski Skyway/Route 139 update
- Riverview Arts District Summit

Membership Dues
Membership dues and donations help sustain the RNA. Annual dues are \$10. Please contribute on our website, at an RNA meeting, or make checks payable to Riverview Neighborhood Association and mail to:
RNA
154 Ogden Ave., 3E
Jersey City, NJ 07307



Greetings!

Please join us this Tuesday, April 8th for our regular monthly meeting at the Harbor View Health Center, 178 Ogden Ave (corner of Franklin), 1st Floor Cafeteria at 7:30PM. Donations of an unopened toiletry item for St. Lucy's shelter will be collected at this meeting.

RNA Expands its Boundaries; Changes Leadership

If you attended last month's annual meeting, you are aware that we voted to amend our bylaws and certificate of incorporation. Thanks to strong turnout for the meeting, we had a super majority of members attend and vote in favor of the amendments. As a result, RNA's boundaries have **expanded** and now include residents and businesses as far west as Sherman Ave, north to the city line, east to Paterson Plank Road and south to Coney/New York Ave/Booraem Place. We welcome new members within our expanded boundaries and as always, welcome support and participation from others who may reside outside of the boundaries.

We also held our annual elections. Congratulations to the 2014 Board of Directors:
President: Kern Weissman
Vice President: Nick Buffum
Secretary: Jocelyn Patrick
Treasurer: Roger Heitmann
Director-at-Large: Jenna Firshain

Spring is Here! Gardening & Local Food Opportunities Abound

At this month's regular monthly meeting on April 8th, we will discuss actions we can take to improve the sustainability and aesthetics of our neighborhood. Our guests will include Mark Bunbury Jr. from Farms in the Heights/Riverview Farmers Market, Katie Sheehan from the Journal Square CSA, Kevin Condrack from Ogden's End Community Garden and a representative of the Riverview Community Garden. In addition, we will discuss RNA's **upcoming scheduled cleanups** and hear about the 3rd Annual Big Spring Cleanup, which will be held on Saturday, April 26th from 10A-3PM (see below). In addition to our guests, representatives from the JCPD and the Resident Response Center will be on hand to share information and to field your concerns.

Three RNA Members named 2014 Women of Action

Congratulations to RNA members Becky Hoffman, Olga Weissman and Beverly Brown-Ruggia and to Heights resident Cynthia Hadjyannis for each being honored by the Mayor and City Council as a 2014 Woman of Action at a ceremony at City Hall on March 27th.

- Becky Hoffman was named a "Woman of Action" by Council President Rolando R. Lavarro, Jr. for her eight years accomplishment as RNA's president.
- Olga Weissman was named by Ward D Councilman Michael Yun for her extraordinary contributions as a volunteer for RNA.
- Beverly Brown Ruggia was named by Councilman Yun for her tireless efforts on behalf of the Washington Park Association (as an advisory board member), RNA, and the Riverview Community Garden, as well as for her professional work for economic justice.
- Cynthia Hadjyannis, named by Councilman Yun, is an attorney. She was noted for her service on the board of Friends of the Loew's and for her representation and advocacy for many Jersey City organizations including Friends of Liberty State Park, Liberty Humane Society, and others.



Together We Can Do It! RNA Volunteer Match Day

Do you want to help make your neighborhood better but aren't sure how to get involved? Do you have a passion for gardening or a love for the arts? Do late buses, graffiti or trash make you crazy?

Learn how you can help by dropping by any time between 2PM and 5PM this Saturday, April 5th in the lobby of 154 Ogden Ave (corner of Ferry St). RNA is hosting a Volunteer Match Day where you can learn about volunteer opportunities by visiting stations dedicated to Community Visioning, Quality of Life Issues/Advocacy (transportation, graffiti, cleanups, abandoned buildings), Gardening, Riverview Farmers Market, Ogden's End Community Garden, Events (annual flea market, Live at the Lumberyard, JC Fridays, Movies in the Parks, etc.), Administration, Grants/Fundraising, Public Relations and more. Each area will be manned by--who else?--a volunteer, who can fill you in on each area of opportunity. It does not take a large commitment of time to make a difference just take on what you can, no more, no less. It all makes a difference.



Bringing the Riverview Arts District to Life Summit

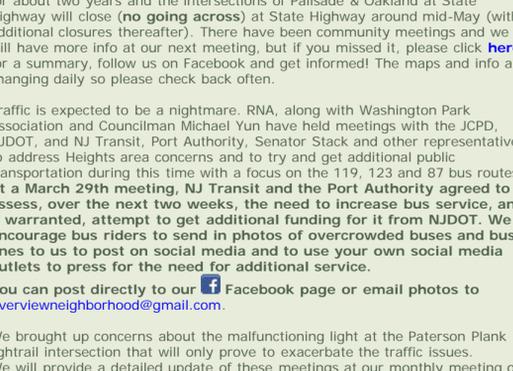
Join us for a day-long creative summit on Saturday, April 12th from 9AM-6PM as we come together as artists, neighbors, business owners and friends to envision the future of Jersey City's newest arts district, our own Riverview Arts District. Bring your thoughts and wish-list of what your ideal arts district looks like. All are welcome.

Using the same methodology that was used in the Farms in the City summit that led to the creation of the Riverview Farmers Market, the Journal Square CSA and other sustainability efforts throughout the city, this is our chance to create a bottom-up vision for our community rather than have one imposed upon us by the City or developers without our input. The conversation will be led by Robyn Stratton-Berkessel of World Cafe-Inquiry. We will be using appreciative inquiry and World Cafe-style methodology to help us all co-create a vision. Learn more about it [here](#).

There is a compounding effect of building on the collective knowledge and aspirations. Curiosity is good and commitment to the task is better. We are hoping to make every hour count, so we hope you can stay for the whole day.

Hosted by Washington Park Association of Hudson County, Riverview Neighborhood Association, Inc., Farms in the Heights and the Heights Community Coalition.
Co-sponsored by The City of Jersey City, WPA, RNA, Farms in the Heights, Hudson City Development, Lee Levine, Nick Caballero Ideas for Living, and Palisade Lumber.

RSVP required for this summit and this event is offered free of charge. We are near capacity of 100 attendees on the official form [linked here](#). We need the RSVP to manage seating, food and beverages and plan the day's flow based on who's in the room.
Location: P.S. #8 @ 96 Franklin Street, Jersey City
a.k.a. Riverview Arts District's World Cafe. Our cafe will be serving up **Mod Cup Coffee** for breakfast along with **Orange & Olive Caterers** catering.



Traffic Nightmare Approaches - READ THIS

Keep glossing over when you hear about the Pulaski Skyway closures thinking it will not affect you here in the Heights? DON'T! Are you aware that Route 139 State Highway construction will take place about the same time as the closure of major intersections like Palisade Ave & State Highway (by Dickinson High School)?

Two northbound lanes of the Pulaski Skyway will close on Saturday April 12th for about two years and the intersections of Palisade & Oakland at State Highway will close (**no going across**) at State Highway around mid-May (with additional closures thereafter). There have been community meetings and we will have more info at our next meeting, but if you missed it, please click [here](#) for a summary, follow us on Facebook and get informed! The maps and info are changing daily so please check back often.

Traffic is expected to be a nightmare. RNA, along with Washington Park Association and Councilman Michael Yun have held meetings with the JCPD, NJDOT, and NJ Transit, Port Authority, Senator Stack and other representatives to address Heights area concerns and to try and get additional public transportation during this time with a focus on the 119, 123 and 87 bus routes. **At a March 29th meeting, NJ Transit and the Port Authority agreed to assess, over the next two weeks, the need to increase bus service, and if warranted, attempt to get additional funding for it from NJDOT. We encourage bus riders to send in photos of overcrowded buses and bus lines to us to post on social media and to use your own social media outlets to press for the need for additional service.**

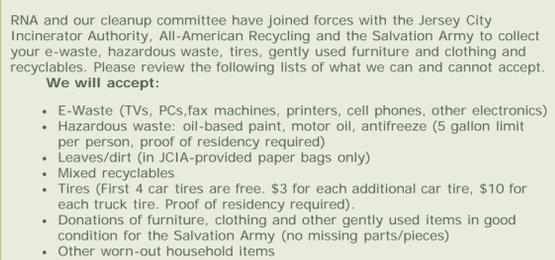
You can post directly to our [Facebook page](#) or email photos to riverviewneighborhood@gmail.com.

We brought up concerns about the malfunctioning light at the Paterson Plank lighthouse intersection that will only prove to exacerbate the traffic issues. We will provide a detailed update of these meetings at our monthly meeting on April 8th and through periodic postings on our [Facebook page](#) and [Twitter feed](#).

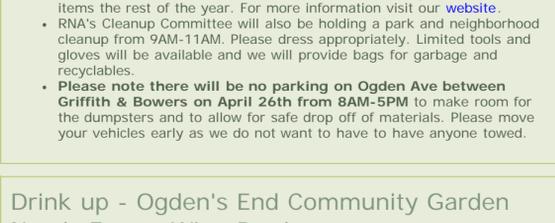
Jersey City Comedy Festival - Going on Now

Need a good laugh after a hard winter? Then get out this week to the The Jersey City Comedy Festival presented by Dos Equis. Headquartered at the pop-up Rogues Gallery at 467 Palisade Ave, there are also comedy events at venues throughout the city. RNA is a sponsor of the comedy festival. **This Saturday, April 5th the JCCF and RNA Presents... show will be at the Rogues Gallery starting at 8PM. Tickets are \$15 with a portion of the proceeds for this show going to support RNAs ongoing activities.** The lineup includes Amy Daulton, Quantel Brooks, Vinnie Vitale, Paul Goncalves, Nick Ruggia and Ryan Rummel and is hosted by JCCF founder and RNA member, Craig Mahoney. For more information and tickets visit: jccomedysfestival.com.

Big Spring Cleanup Returns April 26th



OGDEN AVE BET. GRIFFITH & BOWERS
April 26th 10AM to 3PM



RNA will host the 3rd Annual Big Spring Cleanup on Saturday, April 26th from 10AM to 3PM in Riverview-Fisk Park. If you are ready to clear out your old electronics, half-used cans of oil paint, worn out car tires or that couch you no longer use, Then the Heights Big Spring Cleanup is for you!

And, there's more: protect yourself from identity theft and make room in those file drawers by **securely shredding your personal documents**. All-American Recycling will provide the confidential service and can provide a letter of destruction that certifies that the documents were destroyed. We highly recommend that you take advantage of this valuable donated service.

Have items that are too good to trash? Then donate them to the Salvation Army. The Salvation Army truck will be in the park to accept your gently used furniture, clothing and other wares.

Come to Riverview-Fisk Park (aka Bowers Street Park or the park on Palisade Ave by Griffith & Bowers St) anytime between 10AM-3PM and drop off these items into the appropriately marked receptacles or trucks (along Ogden Ave).

RNA and our cleanup committee have joined forces with the Jersey City Incinerator Authority, All-American Recycling, and the Salvation Army to collect your e-waste, hazardous waste, tires, gently used furniture and clothing and recyclables. Please review the following lists of what we can and cannot accept.

- We will accept:**
- E-Waste (TVs, PCs, fax machines, printers, cell phones, other electronics)
 - Hazardous waste: oil-based paint, motor oil, antifreeze (5 gallon limit per person, proof of residency required)
 - Leaves/dirt (in JCIA-provided paper bags only)
 - Mixed recyclables
 - Tires (First 4 car tires are free, \$3 for each additional car tire, \$10 for each truck tire. Proof of residency required).
 - Donations of furniture, clothing and other gently used items in good condition for the Salvation Army (no missing parts/pieces)
 - Other worn-out household items
 - Personal paper shredding

- We cannot accept:**
- Refrigerators, air conditioners or items with CFCs (however, the JCIA will pick them up from you Monday-Friday 9AM-4PM if you schedule a pickup by calling 201-432-4645 x600)
 - Construction Materials or Commercial trash
 - This is your opportunity to spiff up the house (without a trip to Rt 440!) and learn from representatives from the JCIA how to get rid of these items the rest of the year. For more information visit our [website](#).
 - RNA's Cleanup Committee will also be holding a park and neighborhood cleanup from 9AM-11AM. Please dress appropriately. Limited tools and gloves will be available and we will provide bags for garbage and recyclables.
 - Please note there will be no parking on Ogden Ave between Griffith & Bowers on April 26th from 8AM-5PM** to make room for the dumpsters and to allow for safe drop off of materials. Please move your vehicles early as we do not want to have to have anyone towed.

Drink up - Ogden's End Community Garden Needs Empty Wine Bottles

Save those wine bottles. Ogden's End Community Garden will use them to create garden borders. We will post drop off (or pick up arrangements) shortly.

Updates

- New York Ave/Ravine Road. The City (DPW) projects that the road will reopen no later than the end of April. However, past dates have gone by the wayside due to challenges with this contractor. Any updates will be posted to RNA's Facebook page.
- RNA sent an email to Mayor Fulop thanking him for attending our March meeting and to request that he follow through on the promises that were made at our meeting including: improving lighting on Palisade Ave to improve safety and reduce crime (RNA member Mikhail provided a list of existing poles that are either out or need lights added to them - thanks Mikhail); adding new trash receptacles starting with the one at Congress & Palisade Ave bus stop; establishing recycling in city parks/buildings; proactively maintaining parks, city properties and doing more effective snow removal.
- The city has created a new Graffiti Removal Release form that provides for "duration of consent" and the option for the homeowner to provide their own paint. We will have the form at our meetings and will post it to our website. It is not yet available on the city website.

Upcoming:

April 5th: Mountain Road/100 Steps Area cleanup - 10AM-noon. Meet at Ogden & Franklin.
April 5th: RNA Volunteer Match Day, 2PM-5PM at 154 Ogden Ave, 1st Floor Lobby (at Ferry St).

April 5th: Jersey City Comedy Festival and RNA Presents, 8pm at the Rogues Gallery, 467 Palisade Ave (bet. Griffith & Bowers). Tickets are \$15. Portion of the proceeds will support RNA's ongoing activities. [Click here for more details](#)

April 7, 14, 21, 28: Congress Street & Palisade Ave Area Weekly Cleanup (meet in front of firehouse at 6PM, gloves, bags, provided)
April 12th - 9A-6P Bringing the Riverview Arts District to Life Summit, PS 8, 96 Franklin St. RSVP [Click here for more details](#)

April 26th - 9A-11A Riverview Park Cleanup - volunteer event.
April 26th: 10A-3P. RNA's 3rd Annual Big Spring Cleanup - Riverview-Fisk Park (Ogden bet. Griffith & Bowers).

April 27th - Rock the Reservoir, 3P-7PM at The Lincoln Inn, 13 Lincoln St. \$35 in advance; \$40 at the door. Food, Art, Music. [Click here for more details](#)

Keep up with the latest news and activities

To keep up with neighborhood news, alerts and our updated events, please follow us on Facebook [f](#) or Twitter [t](#) or check our [website](#).