

RIVERVIEW *Neighborhood Association*

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www.riverviewneighborhood.org



RNA

For a Better Life in the Heights

January 2010

RNA IS NOT AFFILIATED WITH ANY POLITICAL PARTY, ORGANIZATION or ELECTED OFFICIAL

Concerned About Jersey City?

Are you worried that the 11.25% municipal tax increase for the first half of 2010 may only be the tip of the iceberg? Wondering when a 2010 fiscal budget will be introduced (for the year beginning July 1, 2009?) or why the budget is so late each year? Want to hear what your representatives think about the issues that concern you most?

Then here is your opportunity. Our Ward representative from the Heights, Ward D Councilman Bill Gaughan and Ward C Councilwoman Nidia Lopez, will be our guests at the January 12th RNA meeting. Monthly business will be kept to a minimum in order to give you time to get answers to your most pressing issues directly from your Ward representative.

Send us the questions you plan to ask so that we can organize the evening to cover as much as possible. Send your questions to riverviewneighborhood@comcast.net. Are you most concerned about taxes, city services, public transportation, our local parks, the 100 Steps or economic development? Please share your concerns with us and on Tuesday, January 12th at 7:30PM at the Harbor View Health Center, 178 Ogden Avenue, (corner of Franklin) 1st Floor Cafeteria. Please bring your neighbors and friends to demonstrate our concern and interest in what happens in our city.

A Wonderful Way to Celebrate

About 50 RNA members, neighbors, business owners and city officials gathered on at the Harborview Health Center, on December 8th for RNA's annual holiday party. The party was catered by Rizzo's on Central Avenue; raffle prizes (a free raffle – what a concept) were provided by Palisade Wine & Liquors and founding member Maria Tuzzo; and a bevy of sumptuous desserts were contributed by our members. Special thanks goes to the Harbor View Health Center for generously donating their cafeteria for this event and for our monthly meetings.

To help those in need during the holiday season, attendees also donated over 15 pounds of food items to The **Community Food Bank of New Jersey** (www.njfoodbank.org). If you weren't able to attend and still want to support the food bank and our community, donations are welcome at any time of year. Thank you to RNA board member Joe Guevara for coordinating the food drive and to everyone who made this event a success.

Holland Street – Funding Request Amended

Back in November we reported that Mayor Healy had submitted an application via Congressman Albio Sires requesting \$1 million for restoration, repair and rehabilitation of Holland Street, that included re-establishing vehicular traffic to it.

RNA voiced its displeasure about the re-opening of the roadway and lobbied to have the funding request amended to preserve Holland Street as a historic landmark and as a pedestrian-only walkway. We are pleased to announce that the City has amended its application to do just this. We thank the Mayor's office, the Division of Planning and Congressman Sires for listening to our concerns and taking action.

To let Congressman Sires know you would like this project funded, please call his office at 201-222-2828 or go to his website and submit a letter at www.sires.house.gov.

100 Steps – One Small Step at a Time

Despite the fact that the developer's agreement requires the developer of The Cliffs to pay for the construction of the 100 Steps as a condition of approval for its variances, the City is now working to obtain grant money from the State to cover a significant part of the cost of construction. In a resolution in mid-December, the City Council approved the submission of an application to the NJ Department of Transportation 2010 Local Aid Infrastructure Funds through the NJ Transportation Trust Fund for \$300,000. According to Councilman Gaughan, the total cost of the Steps is now \$600,000 and the developer only put aside \$240,000. If the DOT does not approve the grant, according to Gaughan, the developer will "have to come up with the funds."

While we appreciate that the City is trying to fund the construction of the 100 Steps as the community was promised, the onus is on the Developer not the City or the taxpayers to do so. We call on the City to enforce the original agreement.

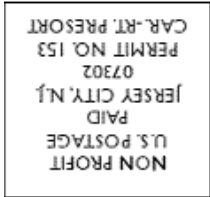
2010 Census

Need a job? The 2010 Census is hiring part-time office and field workers in Jersey City and Bayonne. To schedule an employment test, call 201-285-0150. Hourly pay is \$15-\$20/hour. For more information go to www.census2010.gov

HEIGHTS COUNCILMEMBERS –
OUR GUESTS JAN 12TH!

154 OGDEN AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NJ 07307

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION



COMING EVENTS

Next RNA Meeting:

Tuesday, January 12th at 7:30 p.m.
Location: Harbor View Health Care Center
1st Floor Cafeteria
178 Ogden Avenue

Agenda:

- Ward D Councilman Bill Gaughan
- Ward C Councilwoman Nidia Lopez

Membership Dues

Membership dues and donations help sustain the RNA. Annual dues are \$10 for residents and \$15 for those outside RNA boundaries. Please contribute at an RNA meeting or make checks payable to Riverview Neighborhood Association and mail c/o RNA, 154 Ogden Ave., 3E, Jersey City, NJ 07307.



Holland Street and Ogden Avenue Bridge