

RIVERVIEW Neighborhood Association

154 Ogden Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07307 201-876-1980
www.riverviewneighborhood.org



April 2011

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Next RNA Meeting:
Tuesday, April 12th
at 7:30 PM

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

Agenda:

- Police & Mayor's Action Bureau
- Guests:
JC Food Co-op,
Farms in the City Heights, and WPA

Membership Dues

Membership dues and donations help sustain the RNA. Annual dues are \$10. 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.

Greetings!

Our next regular meeting will be Tuesday, April 12th at 7:30PM at the Harbor View Health Center (corner of Ogden & Franklin).

Jersey City Heights Brimming with Local Food Options

Did you know that **Jersey City now has an active food co-op** where members can buy produce, meat, poultry, and other natural food items from regional farmers? In addition, **we may soon have a farmers' market right here in Riverview-Fisk Park.** And you may soon be able to buy a share of weekly produce from a CSA (Community-Supported Agriculture) in our area.

You can learn about each of these options at the next RNA meeting on Tuesday, April 12th at 7:30PM. Our guests will be Gillian Allen, Lisa Clarke, and Emilio DeLia from the [Jersey City Food Co-op](#), and Mo Kinberg who will discuss the farmers' market. Each of these efforts will need the support of our community to survive and thrive. Come out and be a part of it!

Movies in The Park Fundraiser April 30th

Come out for a BBQ and a tequila tasting (yes, we'll have other beverages and options for vegetarians) and support the 2011 Movies in the Park Program presented by Riverview Neighborhood Association and Washington Park Association. RNA has presented a free movie night in Riverview Park for the last three summers. This year, we are joining forces with Washington Park Association to present movies every Friday night in August: August 5th and 19th in Riverview-Fisk Park, and August 12th and 26th in Washington Park.

While the movies are free for attendees, they are not free for RNA to present. **Tickets to the fundraiser are \$40 per person in advance or \$50 the day of the event.** You'll have a chance to eat fabulous BBQ prepared by Chef Mory Thomas, taste tequilas provided by Diageo, and of course, meet your neighbors. There will be a silent auction as well. **The fundraiser is Saturday, April 30th from 3PM to 7PM at 662 Palisade Avenue. Tickets can be purchased via [PayPal](#) or checks can be made out and sent to Riverview Neighborhood Association, 154 Ogden Ave, 3E, Jersey City, NJ 07307.**

Janet Moore Park - We get action!

After local residents and RNA spoke out about the poor maintenance at Janet Moore Park (thank you to local resident Irene Stamos for the photos), changes are being made. A walk-through of Janet Moore Park was held with Irene, RNA board members Becky Hoffman and Jessica Howse, and Councilwoman Lopez and Public Works director Rodney Hadley. **The Parks Department then came in and removed debris and an old broken gate, cleared out brush, and planted a new tree. Neighbors volunteered to lock and unlock the park gate each day. With these efforts, the conditions are much improved.**

RNA is planning a spring planting (tentatively May 7th) and is seeking volunteers for this effort. Thanks to all who have shown interest in this wonderful little park and are working to improve it for everyone.

One Step Closer..

After receiving a NJ Department of Transportation grant for \$300,000 to build the **100 Steps**, Jersey City determined that it would cost more than twice this amount to construct the 100 Steps, a stairway connecting Mountain Road/lower Franklin Street to Paterson Plank Road. While the Steps were to have been built at the "sole cost and expense" of the developer of The Cliffs apartments at 100 Paterson Plank Road, the City is required to build the steps in order to accept the grant.

To make up the cost difference, the City has proposed a special assessment for Brassworks LLC (the developer) that will be paid like property taxes over the course of several years. The City will, in turn, bond for the construction costs. As we understand it, the Developer's Agreement is being amended to address this change. RNA will continue to work to ensure that the City and the Developer move forward to ensure that the monies are secured, and that construction be started and completed in a timely manner.

City Receives Grant to Repair Ravine Road

We recently learned from Ward C Councilwoman Nidia Lopez that Jersey City has received \$1.3 million from the NJDOT Municipal Aid 2011 program to improve New York Avenue from Ravine Avenue to the Hoboken city line. (This is the road that leads down from the Heights to Hoboken from behind Supremo Food Market and is referred to as both Ravine and New York Avenue.) This section of New York Avenue is in dire need of improvements. According to the City engineer, "We plan to complete the roadway design by the end of this summer and bid the construction by the fall of this year."

Multipurpose Sports Field Planned for Washington Park

Union City was recently awarded \$500,000 from the Hudson County Open Space, Recreation and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Allocations for a **multipurpose sports field in Washington Park.** Washington Park is a county park located on the border of Jersey City and Union City and the field will require additional funding to be completed. The sports field will be located on the west side of Palisade Avenue and the north side of Paterson Plank Road and will require the removal of over a dozen old, established trees.

Union City did not contact Washington Park Association nor other area neighborhood associations when it proposed this park. Most people first learned of this proposal when the Hudson County Open Space Advisory Board made its recommendations for 2010 grants on September 20, 2010. **While there is a need for additional recreation space in Union City, this planned facility has limited parking and area residents are concerned about noise, traffic and the environmental impact. In addition, this portion of Washington Park appears to be reserved primarily for the use of Union City residents.**

Washington Park Association has been working with the County and Union City mayor Brian Stack to raise its concerns and suggest improvements to the plan even though they do not agree with placing this facility in Washington Park. **Mory Thomas, President of Washington Park Association, and Nick Caballero, Secretary, will be guests at the April RNA meeting to review the status of this plan and answer your questions.**

RNA Welcomes Two New Members to the Board

Annual elections for RNA officers were held during our March meeting. Two new officers, Jason Burch and Jessica Howse, were elected for the first time as Secretary and Sergeant-at-Arms, respectively. We are very excited to have these dynamic new officers and hope you will take a moment to get to know them at an RNA Event.

The 2011/2012 board members are:

Chair: Becky Hoffman
Vice-Chair: Kem Weissman
Secretary: Jason Burch
Treasurer: Roger Heitmann
Sgt. At Arms: Jessica Howse

We wish to thank Monya McCarty and Joe Guevara for their service and look forward to their continued participation in this vibrant organization.

Neighborhood Concerns

There have been both positive and negative developments in our neighborhood in the last few months, some of which have been outlined in the newsletter. **There have been several serious crimes within RNA's boundaries where guns and knives were involved.** Officer Calton will have information about this at the April 12th RNA meeting. Neighbors continue to raise concerns about noise, pollution and the condition of Ravine Road and the activities at the recycling plants below us and we will update you about this as well.

Upcoming Events

April 9th, 9AM - Noon
HCIA Public Paper Shredding Event

Stephen J. Gregg Park (Bayonne) Parking Lot (use 37th St and Kennedy Blvd Entrance) Hudson County residents are invited to have personal, confidential, and/or sensitive documents shredded for free at this on-site mobile paper-shredding event. Limit 40 lbs per person. For more information visit [www.hcia.org](#)

April 12th, 7:30PM
RNA Monthly Meeting

Guests: JC Food Co-op, Farms in the City Heights, and WPA.
Harborview Health Center, 178 Ogden Ave, 1st Fl. Cafeteria

April 16th
Walk for Liberty State Park (or 5K Run)

Registration 7:30AM - 9:30AM, Friends Walk and HCIA 5K Run begin at 10AM. Liberty State Park, north side of historic CRRNJ Terminal. For more information visit [www.folsp.org](#).

April 21st, 5:30PM
Planning Board Meeting

Public hearing regarding the Distillery Gallery, 280 Grove Street.

April 27th
Jersey City Board of Education Election Polls open 2PM-9PM.

April 29th
The Landmark Loews Jersey, 54 Journal Sq (Kennedy Blvd. across from PATH), 8PM, *The Matrix*. Visit [www.loewsjersey.org](#) for more information or call 201-798-6055.

April 30th, 3PM - 7PM
Movies in the Park Fundraiser (presented by RNA and WPA), \$40 per person in advance or \$50 the day of the event, 662 Palisade Avenue. (See above for ticket information.)

April 30th
The Landmark Loews Jersey, 54 Journal Sq (Kennedy Blvd across from PATH) 6PM, *The Jersey From Another World*, 8:10PM, *John Carpenter's The Thing*. Visit [www.loewsjersey.org](#) for more information or call 201-798-6055.

For more events please visit our [website](#).