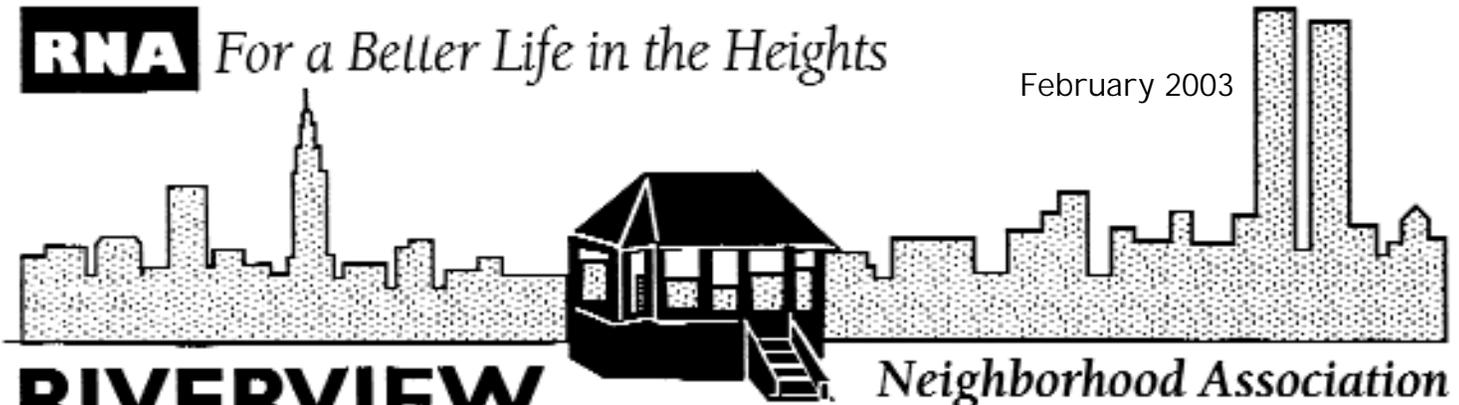


RNA*For a Better Life in the Heights*

February 2003

**RIVERVIEW****Neighborhood Association**

469 Palisade Avenue, Jersey City, NJ 07307(201) 386-9481

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

CLIFF-SIDE PROJECT

At the January RNA meeting, the **Park Avenue Design Group** (Hoboken) presented their plans for the renovation of the Kovan's Boiler/bookbindery building at 100 Paterson Plank Road. In conjunction with the plans there were presentations by the traffic, acoustic and cliff stability experts. After these presentations the RNA membership asked questions for clarification of issues and to express the community's concerns on specific points. After the departure of the development team there was a question and answer period with **Claire Davis** of the Planning Department.

Since this meeting there have been ongoing discussions between RNA, the Planning Department and the development team to address unresolved issues with the project. There have been further modifications made to the Paterson Plank/Mountain Road traffic intersection. The sound barriers/baffles for the roof top HVAC units and their placement is being changed to address the input from community residents at the meeting. The property liability and monitoring for the owners at the top of the cliff during any work on the cliff face is being drafted. At the February 11th RNA meeting all of this new information will be presented. It is important that everyone be aware of the impact that this project will have on our neighborhood during construction and after its completion.

February 20th is DEFINATE date for this project to go before the Zoning Board of Adjustment. This may be the last RNA meeting to register your input - be sure to attend!

ANNUAL RNA ELECTIONS

The nominations for RNA's Executive officers: **Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, Secretary** and **Sgt.-At Arms** for the 2003-2004 term will be opened at the February 11th meeting. The nominations will remain open until the March 11th meeting, at which time they will be closed and the general elections will be held.

To be eligible to vote, you must be eighteen year old, paid your annual membership dues and live or own property within the constitutional boundaries of RNA. The Association's boundaries are Paterson Plank Road on the east, Palisade Avenue on the west, Cueno Place on the south and Congress Street on the north.

To run for office, an individual, in addition to the above qualifications, must be a current resident living within RNA's boundaries and be an active member of RNA.

RNA advises all residents to participate in this activity. It is critical that everyone have a voice in the decision making process in their community. It is also important to volunteer one's time and energy to improve the quality of life in their neighborhood.

COMMUNITYUPDATES

ROOF TOP TENNIS COURT: The November 14th decision of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to deny permission for the roof top tennis court under construction at 117-119 Mountain Road has been appealed by the owner to the Superior Court of New Jersey. Several community residents have filed with the Court to intervene as participants in the appeal. There has been no hearing date set.

GATEWAY: The **Hudson County Alliance (HCA)** continues to weigh its options to try to stop further construction at 101 Marshall Street/Gateway Towers.

HCA has requested an administrative hearing

from the **NJ Department of Environmental Protection** regarding the agency's granting of the project's Treatment Works Application as a first step toward a possible appeal of that approval. The DEP approved the project based on the North Hudson Sewage Authority's assurances that the local system has the necessary capacity for the buildings and despite the fact that there is serious flooding during storms at the location. HCA is awaiting the scheduling of the administrative hearing.

In addition, HCA is weighing its options regarding the filing of an Appellate Appeal of Judge D'Italia's decision dismissing the suits filed by HCA, The City of Jersey city and the City Council of Hoboken. HCA would welcome the efforts of Jersey City and Hoboken residents to lobby their respective municipalities to take the lead in this Appeal.

Finally, HCA continues to need your financial support to pay the existing legal bills and to fund any Appeals. If you can contribute, please make checks payable to the **Hudson County Alliance, Inc., PO Box 2023, Hoboken, NJ 07030.**

HOLLAND STREET: On January 7th the Planning Board voted unanimously in their recommendation for Holland Street to be placed on Jersey City's landmarks list. Thanks to everyone that was able to make such a short notice scramble for this hearing to show support for Holland Street's designation. The date for the final approval vote by the City Council has not be set .

MEETING MINUTES:

[The following summaries are reports of the last two RNA meetings in 2002: November and December 2002 and the first meeting of the new year, January 2003.]

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

The November meeting started at 7:35 PM. The first speaker was **Police Lt. Robert Kilduff** from the North District, who updated the group about the recent murder that occurred on Mountain Road.

He announced that four individuals had already been arrested as suspects in the crime. Kilduff suggested that security on the Road could be enhanced by surveillance cameras. He stated that the Road was hard to patrol because of the one way access from the bottom. He also suggested that anyone in the neighborhood using the Road should not travel on it alone but employ a "buddy

system."

NID Manager Ron Clemente updated the meeting regarding several complaints from the previous meeting: barking dogs on Ogden Avenue, an abandoned air conditioner let on the corner of Ferry and Ogden and the cleaning of clogged catchbasins at the intersections along Ogden Avenue. He also announced the issuance of tickets for 177-179 and 181 Ogden Avenue for improper refuse storage. Ron then took new complaints and promised to come back and hopefully update the group with their resolution.

Chair Cliff Steinbring then updated the group about the ongoing negotiations between the community, the developers and the City regarding **Cliff-Side**, the proposed residential project for old brick building known as Kovans at the bottom of the cliff. There were a new set of blueprint plans for the members to review.

Finally there were various announcements for the December 4th Harbor view Holiday Party for the resident, RNA's Annual Food and Toy Drive and RNA's own Holiday party scheduled for Tuesday, December 10th. The meeting ended at 9:00 PM.

Tuesday, December 10, 2002

There was no formal business conducted at the December meeting. Instead, RNA invited all its members, friends and neighbors to his annual holiday party. About forty men, women and children toasted in the holidays with catered food by **Mangia Bene** and homemade or store bought desserts provided by the members. it was a relaxed and fun evening.

Tuesday, January 14, 2003

The January meeting was well attended by the community. The first speaker was newly promoted **Police Lt. Mark Ruby**, the new executive officer of the North District. Lt. ruby assured the group that he and his officers were still committed to ridding our neighborhood of drug dealers and other criminals.

The second speaker was **Ron Clemente, the local NID Manager**, who updated the group on his work resolving quality of life complaints.

The main item on the agenda was the presentation of the **Cliff-Side** project by the architect. Other engineers were present to discuss the traffic, acoustic and cliff stability dimensions of this residential proposal. The project will house 128 apartments and an 88 space parking facility. The plans also include the addition of two stories to the existing building.

The community expressed concerns regarding

the noise level of the 128 air conditioning units to be located on the roof and the reconfiguration of the intersection of Mountain Road, Hope Street and Paterson Plank Road to accommodate the buildings traffic. A major problem with the project centered on the "defacing" of the Palisade cliff itself, including the proposed stabilizing of the cliff face with metal netting and bolts to be driven into the rock. Cliff residents also expressed alarm about the possibility of damage to their properties and the need for liability coverage by the developer. The developer's representatives were unable to address all these concerns but promised to submit their responses before the next meeting. After the presentation, **Claire Davis** from the Planing Department was available for clarification and questioning about this project.

Afterwards, members commented that neither the developer nor the City was taking into account the impact of the Second Street Station of the Hudson-Bergen Light Rail or the two 17 story towers of the infamous Gateway project that are currently under construction directly across the street from the Cliff-Side site. (Coincidentally, Sanford Weiss, the developer of the Cliff-Side is also the developer of the Gateway project.) Unfortunately, there was not enough time for the membership to adequately discuss the project among themselves or take a vote on the project. A decision was made to continue this discussion about the Cliff-Side at the February meeting.

Maria Tuzzo, Secretary

HARBOR VIEW HOLIDAY PARTY

RNA's annual holiday party for the residents of the Harbor View Health Care Facility, held on Saturday, December 4th, was a big success. Over 130 stuffed animals were given to the residents. There was also gifts for the employees.

A special thanks: to **Administrator Kathy Engler, Recreation Director Amy Wilson** and the kitchen staff for their cooperation and help, to all who contributed cakes and cookies and those who volunteered to serve the refreshments, to **Robert Boesch** who dressed up as Santa, **Jerry Oasis** and her mother at the keyboard, and **Maria Tuzzo** and the **Paulette sisters** for their singing.

Jack Rea

RNA EXECUTIVE BOARD

Chair: Clif Steinbring
 Vice Chair: Margi Daly
 Secretary: Maria Tuzzo
 Treasurer: Vito Brunetti
 Sgt.-at-Arms: Doris Brown

BULLETIN BOARD

VISIT savethepalisades.org

POLICE BEAT: 201-547-5477

Report any problems, safety concerns or knowledge of a criminal or suspicious activity to the police radio room at the above number. Leave your name, telephone number, street address, the nature of the problem, an accurate description of the individual(s) and/or vehicle involved and date and time of the message. All call will be strictly confidential. To report drug dealing, contact the **Narcotics Unit** at **(201) 547-5391**. Call **911** for all health, safety or criminal emergencies.

RECYCLE GARBAGE & DISPOSABLES - IT'S THE LAW!

The **Incinerator Authority** recycles the following materials:

PAPER: newspapers, magazines, junk mail, school and office paper, computer paper, telephone books, cardboard/corrugated boxes, cereal boxes, pasta boxes, laundry detergent boxes

PLASTICS: milk cartons, drink boxes, plastic milk containers, food containers, household cleaner containers, laundry detergent bottles, shampoo bottles

GLASS: soda bottles, beer bottles, food jars, liquor bottles

CANS: aluminum, tin, steel (no chemical or paint cans)

WEDNESDAY is our neighborhood pick-up day for recycling.

For more information, call **(201) 432-4645**.

Contribute to Your Community Newsletter

Send your articles, opinions, announcements, poems and recipes to: RNA, 469 Palisade Avenue or to: RNA@gitch.net. Next deadline is: **February 25, 2003**.

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Support RNA by paying your annual membership dues of **\$7.00 per person** at the February 11th meeting or sending a check, payable to RNA, to 232 Ogden Avenue.

Membership entitles you to the monthly newsletter and voting privileges, if you live on **Ogden** or **Palisade Avenue** between **Cuneo Place** and **Congress Street** within the RNA boundaries.

COME TO THE NEXT RNA MEETING on February 11th at 7:15 PM
at the Harbor View Health care Facility
Nominations for RNA Officers

The fate of your community
is at stake!
PARTICIPATE IN THE
CLIFF-SIDE DISCUSSION

RIVERVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
469 PALISADE AVENUE
JERSEY CITY, NEW JERSEY 07307



COMING EVENTS

RNA MEETING:

Tuesday, February 11th at 7:15 PM
Location: Harbor View Health Care Ctr.

AGENDA:

- 1) *Cliff-Side Project*. Final Discussion and Community Vote
- 2) *Police Report*
- 3) *Nominations for RNA Officers*
- 4) *Planning for Spring Events*

CLIFF-SIDE PROJECT

Thursday, February 20th at 6:00 PM
(Definate date)
Location: Board of Adjustment,
City Hall, 280 Grove Street



North District Police Station
Central Avenue, South from Hutton Street
Jersey City, N. J. (Postcard, 1908)