

April 2012

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Join Our Mailing List!

Next RNA Meeting:
Tuesday, April 10th at 7:30 PM

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

Agenda:
* JCPD & Mayor's Action Bureau
* **Guests: Oren Dabney, CEO of JCIA; Mo Kinberg, Farms in the Heights and rep from Union City Neighborhood Assoc.**

Other:
Please bring non-perishable food items for St. Lucy's Shelter

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!

Please join us for our monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 10th at 7:30PM. Our guest this month will be Oren Dabney, CEO of the Jersey City Incinerator Authority who will address your questions and concerns regarding waste removal, graffiti, recycling and other issues under his direction. **In keeping with our 2012 theme of taking small steps that make a big difference, please bring a non-perishable food item for donation to St. Lucy's Shelter.**

Talk Trash and More at the April RNA Meeting

Haven't been to an RNA meeting before or haven't been in a while? This is one not to miss. Our guest this month is Oren Dabney, CEO of the Jersey City Incinerator Authority. The JCIA is partnering with us on April 28th for the Heights Big Spring Cleanup (see below). The JCIA oversees many functions that are critical to our quality of life. These include residential curbside trash/recycling, graffiti removal, street sweeping, snow plowing, demolition, environmental compliance and more. This is your chance to bring your concerns about these services directly to the person who heads this agency. For more information about JCIA, please visit www.jciaonline.org.

Our monthly meetings are an opportunity for you to meet your neighbors, share your concerns with neighbors and representatives of the JCPD and the Mayor's Action Bureau, learn about the latest community updates, and hear from a guest speaker. At this month's meeting, in addition to Mr. Dabney, Mo Kinberg from Farms in the City will give a sneak preview of this season's Farmers Market and a representative from the Union City Neighborhood Association will give us an update on the development of Park 3 in Washington Park. Our meetings are open to the public and we welcome anyone to attend whether they live within our boundaries or not. The meeting will take place on Tuesday, April 10th at 7:30PM at the Harbor View Health Center, 178 Ogden Ave (at Franklin).

Heights Big Spring Cleanup - Saturday April 28

Not sure what to do with that old TV, half-used cans of oil paint, those old car tires or that couch you no longer use? Then the Heights Big Spring Cleanup is for you!

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 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
- 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 [download our flyer](#) or call 201-876-1980.**

RNA and its co-sponsors for Spring Into Action will also be holding a neighborhood cleanup from Noon-2PM, with a meet-up afterwards at Amalfi Pizzeria (451 Palisade Ave, across from the park). Our target area will be Ogden & Palisade Avenues from Cuneo to Congress Street. We ask for a good turnout of RNA members for this cleanup--you'll be amazed at how much improvement can be made in just two hours!

Changing the Culture One Piece of Trash at a Time

Are you disgusted by the amount of litter and trash strewn around the Heights? You are not alone. While some of the trash is a result of inadequate street cleaning or receptacles, much of the garbage strewn about is the result of people littering. Once the streets are a mess, it is easier for some people to drop the next piece of trash rather than find a receptacle.

Since mid-March, RNA has joined forces with several Heights organizations to do our part to clean up the Heights. Dubbed Spring Into Action, neighborhood cleanups have been held on Sundays between Noon and 2PM, moving from one Heights neighborhood to another. The first three cleanups yielded over 56 bags of trash and recyclables (40 gallon bags!). By cleaning up the streets, we are hoping that more residents will think twice before littering and that we can (along with many other outreach efforts) change the culture here to one where littering is no longer acceptable.

To participate, just show up at the designated corner at noon, dressed appropriately. We will have gloves and bags, you can bring tools, such as a broom, if you wish to do so. You'll be amazed at what a difference an hour or two can make. **The next cleanups, all starting at noon, are:**

- **April 15th (corner of Zabriskie & Summit)**
- **April 22nd (corner of North & Webster)**
- **April 28th (at Riverview Park, Palisade Ave, by the Gazebo) NOTE: This is a Saturday. As this cleanup will be all within RNA boundaries, we hope you will all come out for this one! Stop by Amalfi Pizzeria (451 Palisades Ave, across from the park) afterwards to support a local business and hang out with RNA!**

Spring Into Action is co-sponsored by Riverview Neighborhood Association, AARP Chapter 5102, the Central Avenue Special Improvement District, Farms in the Heights, the Heights Community Coalition, the Pershing Field Garden, and the Washington Park Association of Hudson County.

spring

Found in 1983, the Riverview Neighborhood Association is one of the oldest and continually active neighborhood associations in Jersey City, primarily serving the eastern portion of Jersey City Heights. RNA is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that actively partners with neighbors, local government, and local organizations to improve the quality of life and foster pride in our neighborhood and surrounding communities. Meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month (except August) at 7:30PM at the Harborview Health Center, 178 Ogden Ave. For more information email us at riverviewneighborhood@comcast.net or call 201-876-1980 or find us on the web and leading social media sites.

Heights Big Spring Cleanup - Saturday April 28th
10AM - 3PM
Riverview-Fisk Park
Palisade & Ogden Ave (bet Griffith & Bowers)
Rain or Shine

Spiff up! Bring your e-waste, hazardous waste, tires, gently used furniture and clothing and recyclables right to the park and JCIA and the Salvation Army will whisk them away! Join volunteers for a neighborhood cleanup along Ogden & Palisade Avenues (meet at the Gazebo in Riverview Park at noon) plus other activities.

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 receptacle

- 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

We cannot accept:

- Refrigerators or 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 201-432-4645x600)
- Construction Materials or Commercial trash

Flowers Everywhere!

We've spoken a lot about garbage in this newsletter, but we hope you have also noticed the bevy of spring flowers blooming throughout Jersey City and in particular in Riverview and Janet Moore Parks.

The daffodils and tulips that are coming up were planted on Oct. 22, 2011 as part of the Big Dig, a city-wide effort sponsored by the Jersey City Parks Coalition (of which RNA is a proud member). Over 18,000 bulbs were planted throughout the city including several hundred in each of our parks. Take a moment to check them out and appreciate the power of grassroots efforts!

RNA Members vote in 2012-2013 Board

At the March 2012 meeting, the membership elected the following members to serve as officers for a one-year term ending in March 2013. Congratulations to:

- President - Becky Hoffman
- Vice President - Kern Weissman
- Treasurer - Roger Heitmann
- Secretary - Jason Burch
- Sgt-at-Arms - Jessica Howse

Community Considers Whether to Reverse Ogden Ave Traffic Direction

At the March RNA meeting, a proposal was discussed to reverse the direction of traffic along Ogden Avenue between South Street and Bowers Street in order to slow speeders who use this stretch to bypass the traffic lights on Palisade Ave. While all members in attendance agreed that there was a significant safety issue along this stretch, they were not all in agreement as to the solution. About half of the attendees supported the reversal of the traffic direction, while the others wanted the city to consider a stop sign and speed humps instead. The City has been reluctant to install speed bumps or humps in Jersey City, citing cost, maintenance, effectiveness, pooling of water, and difficulty with snow plowing as reasons. RNA has asked them to review other traffic calming options and is continuing to collect feedback from residents who live along this stretch of Ogden. Since our meeting, RNA has heard from several other residents who support the traffic direction change and **would like to hear from as many residents as possible. Please send your comments to us at riverviewneighborhood@comcast.net or mail them to us.**

What Movies Do You Want to See?

Movies in the Parks will be returning the first four Fridays in August, alternating between Riverview Park and Washington Park. We'd love to hear your movie suggestions. A few caveats: the movies need to be rated PG or G and run less than 2 hours. The categories this year are: Comedy, Kids, Latin/Hispanic, and Popular/Action. Please submit your suggestions to our Facebook page or via email at riverviewneighborhood@comcast.net.

This Month's Volunteer Opportunities

We would be grateful for the help of a **graphic designer** as well as a **translator** (from English to Spanish) for flyers and other RNA communications.

RNA is also looking for an organized and proactive individual to coordinate our **Flea Market fundraiser**. This post was filled every year by founding member, **Maria Tuzzo**. The flea market is set in September, but planning for this event begins in June.

Thanks to everyone who shows up a little early to meetings and stays a little late to set up the chairs/tables. RNA appreciates the efforts of all our volunteers! If you can help out, please email riverviewneighborhood@comcast.net

Help Wanted

The Riverview Farmers Market is seeking an independent contractor for the position of Market Manager. The Manager will oversee the operation of the market, which is open Sundays 9AM to 2PM, from May 6th to October 28th. In addition, the manager will take a lead role in promoting and advertising the market. For a complete job description, compensation and how to apply, please download the job description.

The Trolley Car Bar & Grill (Palisade Ave & Ferry St) is seeking part-time bartenders/wait-staff. Some experience required. Must be available late night and weekends. Please contact Annette at 856-506-4492.

Upcoming Events

April 15, 22 & 28th, Noon-2: Spring Into Action Cleanups (see above) For more info, contact organizer Peter Basso at peter.a.basso@gmail.com

April 13th: Washington Park Association and Friends of the Loews annual fundraiser at the Landmark Loews Theatre (www.wpanj.org) \$60 in advance

April 17th: Jersey City Board of Education Elections (3 slots) Polls open 7AM-9PM

April 26th: RNA Business Community Meeting at 7:30PM at the Harborview Health Center, 178 Ogden Ave. For more information contact: Art Kaufman (908) 304-2690 or email business@riverviewneighborhood.org

April 28th: RNA's Heights Big Spring Cleanup (see above) 10AM-3PM

May 1-May 5th: Green Week 5 Days of Green events (see cityofjerseycity.com for listings)

May 5th: RNA Holland Street Cleanup (with Goldman Sachs and community volunteers). Details TBA