



VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS

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Jackson Heights
Beautification Group

Jackson Heights – “A Garden in the City”

NUEVA SECCIÓN, ¡EN ESPAÑOL! página 7

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

You're Greener Than Most Americans Just by Living Here

By Len Maniace

With forest fires out West and floods in the South, summer 2016 may be remembered as the season when Mother Nature struck back after decades of abuse. But what do those disasters have to do with life in Jackson Heights?

Well, if our nation and the world are going to survive the wrath of climate change, more of the Earth will need to look and function like Jackson Heights, and New York City for that matter, which is one of the most energy-efficient places in the nation and on the planet.

Climate change is closely linked to the burning of fossil fuels and New York City is an energy miser compared to most places, especially when you look at how much the average New Yorker uses. In New York City, and especially in Jackson Heights, we get around largely by mass transit and walking and are less dependent on that climate-change culprit, the car. With a growing emphasis on bike lanes throughout the city and the growth of ferries

along our waterfronts, we are likely to reduce our use of fossil fuels even more.

Folks who ride NYC's transit system know this is not a completely good-news story. Yes, transit ridership is up dramatically, but so is crowding. New York had 1.75 billion subway riders in

2014, which is the most since 1948. The subway system, however, has not kept pace

(cont. on p. 4)

Operation LeafDrop Is On Again In Jackson Heights

By Lenny Olsson

Fall will soon be upon us, and as the temperatures drop, so do the leaves that shaded our neighborhood for the last six or so months. This time of year is a mixed blessing of spectacular leaf colors and the chore of cleaning up those leaves when they hit the ground. An untold number of large bags of leaves are placed at the curb to await pick-up by the Sanitation Department, with the ultimate destination of burial in a landfill. However, there is an alternative to this outcome. You can drop off your leaves at the JH SCRAPs compost site during Operation LeafDrop!



JH SCRAPs is accepting all neighborhood bagged leaves every Saturday in November. Open every Saturday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. (except in extreme weather), JH SCRAPs will use these leaves to balance out the nitrogen-rich food scraps collected throughout the year. Now is the time of year JH SCRAPs stocks up on this composting necessity. Dried leaves are an important component in the diet of the plethora of decomposers found in a compost pile. As a rule, it takes more than two cubic feet of leaves for every 50 pounds of food scraps. We can go through leaves very quickly.

We ask that leaves be bagged either in clear plastic or brown paper bags that can be found at most home

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Gardening volunteers

A New URL Just for Jackson Heights

by Tom Lowenhaupt, Connecting.nyc Inc.

New York City's neighborhoods are on the verge of an explosion of possibilities. While they have historically been inexact geographic areas with limited civic resources, each could soon have the world's most advanced communication system at its beck and call.

Such a transformation would result from an insightful and gutsy step taken by the de Blasio administration to set aside 385 neighborhood domain names for development by local nonprofits, names such as Astoria.nyc, GreenwichVillage.nyc, and JacksonHeights.nyc.

Reversing his predecessor's decision to auction neighborhood names to the highest bidder, de Blasio decided to invest in the neighborhoods and to provide residents with the opportunity to rethink and refashion the Internet in ways that serve local needs. Instead of corporate captains in Silicon Valley deciding how Jackson Heights uses the Internet, local residents can decide.

Recently, Connecting.nyc. Inc., a Jackson Heights-based nonprofit, submitted an application to the city for the license to develop the JacksonHeights.nyc domain. I'm delighted to say the application was approved in August.

In the coming months, JH residents will have the opportunity to plan our neighborhood's digital civic center. Collectively, we can take stock of our resources, identify

our problems, and assess the opportunities before us. We can decide on ways to make Jackson Heights more livable, and then shape the Internet to help us match our desires.

There's no guarantee this will work. We'll need to find a business model that will support this newest civic media. Perhaps most importantly, we'll need to come up with a governance model that effectively engages the full breadth of our diverse neighborhood. In recent weeks, the organization started on that path, reaching out to neighbors and important civic organizations, such as the Jackson Heights Beautification Group.

If done right, it will be the intuitive and authoritative place where people can turn when thinking about Jackson Heights, offering features such as a common calendar, publishing, outreach, discussion, decision making, organizing resources, and links to local organizations. The hope is that it will become a platform for civic good and neighborhood empowerment.

You can read Connecting.nyc Inc.'s license application at <http://bit.ly/JH-licenseApplication>. If you'd like to learn more about this organization, go to www.Connecting.nyc.

If you'd like to contact this organization to volunteer or with suggestions, please write to Tom@connecting.nyc.



Editor's Take

By Lila M. Stromer

Welcome to this issue of *Views from the Heights*.

The summer has come to a close, although the weather has actually become lovelier. It was *hot* and *dry* for weeks ... really months ... on end, so the cooler air offers a well-needed break. I am a freelancer, so it's a relief to work and sleep at home without needing the air conditioner. Now is the time of year when the AC isn't on, but neither are the radiators, which create a different issue of heat. As Len Maniace notes in his President's Message (on the cover), heating a NYC apartment is a matter of regulating heat as best you can. This was a change for my husband and me, given our condo in Chicago had central air and heat, meaning if it got warm or cold, we simply changed the thermostat. Clearly, most NYC apartments have neither central AC/heat nor thermostats. Thanks to a neighbor, and a year after we struggled with an overheated apartment, we learned that our radiators have little knobs that regulate the heat, at least to a certain degree. The radiators are old and the knobs work only so well, but saving anything on heat also helps save energy.

As Len also noted, trees help regulate the temperature, which is why I was glad that NYC Parks planted two young trees on my street. With such dry weather, I was concerned that they wouldn't do well, given that tags on the trees said they needed to be watered between May and October. I learned from Len that to do well, they'd each need two gallons of water per day, every day. I've watered these trees via a one-gallon jug throughout the summer, although, truthfully, I did sometimes forget (or just didn't want to go up and down four times from my fourth-floor apartment, elevator notwithstanding). Not so with JHBG watering the trees on 37th Ave. Stephen LaMarch and Len explain in their article (p. 6) that JHBG faithfully watered the trees on 37th Ave. twice a week. Normally, JHBG's Tree LC volunteers water once a week, but this year was so dry, they did double-duty. Want to help throughout this fall, plus plant perennials in the newly renamed curbside gardens? The contact information is in their article.

JHBG volunteers also added bright yellow beauty by planting sunflowers. The dedicated Gardening group, as described by Nuala O'Dogherty (p. 6), not only planted flowers and plants in many locations, but it also removed

ugly weeds and trash. Like the Tree LC volunteers, the Gardening volunteers do important work in making Jackson Heights what it is: a green and nature-filled city within a city. The Gardening volunteers work every weekend throughout the year, save the winter, so if you'd like to help clean up Jackson Heights and make it a prettier place with multiple gardens, there are plenty of opportunities! Read Nuala's article to find out more.

Directly related to its work with trees and gardens is the group's composting center, JH SCRAPS. As Lenny Olsson, a master composter, told me a while ago, JHBG's compost center helps bring food full circle, in which, for example, a peach pit is broken down to help the soil grow a peach tree. In his article on the cover, Lenny explains how leaves are part of this process. Not only could JH SCRAPS use your leaves, but by not having the city haul them away to a landfill, you're doubly helping the Earth. You can bring your bags of leaves—in brown bags or clear bags only—to JH SCRAPS every Saturday from now throughout October. In another article on JH SCRAPS, Lenny announces the site's expansion and a visit by Queens Borough President Melinda Katz. There are big plans for the site, which you can read about on page 8. My husband and I often remark how much of a smaller footprint we have in NYC. We recycle nearly everything, and we compost a lot, thanks to both JH SCRAPS on Saturdays and the city's collection on Sundays at the Green Market. Our trash going to the landfill has diminished significantly (which goes back to Len's article on the cover ... full circle again).

There is, of course, other news in this issue. Three outside groups offer important information. Connecting.nyc Inc. is working to help Jackson Heights nonprofit groups have a way to announce their work via dedicated domain names. There's a lot of work to do, and they are looking for your help. You can find out more in Tom Lowenhaupt's article on page 2. Another group helping to better Jackson Heights is Queens Quiet Skies, which is trying to reduce airplane noise. To read what that group is up to, and how you can help, including specific steps, read Brian Will's article (p. 9). Finally, The Queens Consort is a new musical organization bringing early music to Queens. I had the opportunity to hear a concert earlier this year, and they are *definitely* worth following. You can read more about this group and find its schedule on page 10. Want even more music? Check the save-the-date information on page 11 about the upcoming Jackson Heights Orchestra's schedule. And JHBG's Halloween Parade is just around the corner! See page 5 for the save-the-date info on that event.

In the interim, enjoy your autumn! Until next time...

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont. from p. 1)

with the growth. Queens, in particular, is vastly underserved when compared to the Bronx, Brooklyn and Manhattan. One indication is that we have 800,000 more people living here than in 1950, while those other boroughs have fewer people than in that year.

With a new building boom sweeping across Queens, you may wonder: Where are the plans to catch up with this growth? Other than the proposed Brooklyn–Queens trolley, which would serve only a small sliver of this borough, there isn't much. The \$2.8 billion trolley isn't going to do the job. However, how to change this picture is a story for another day.

Another thing that makes us more energy efficient is our housing: multistory, attached buildings have the potential to be much more efficient than suburban single-family houses because they have fewer surfaces exposed to the outdoors, reducing the amount of heat loss and the burning of fossil fuels. More on this later.

A third tool for battling climate change is nature itself. Through the leadership of JHBG, Jackson Heights has been a big supporter of the city's Millions Tree program, not only getting more trees planted here, but also caring for them so they stay alive and thrive. Trees have the potential to noticeably cool our streets and homes, reducing the need for air conditioning and the need to burn—say it together—fossil fuels.

You can help on this front by participating in our Tree LC program, which will be working on street trees most weekends in September and October, on either Saturdays or Sundays. We usually meet at 37th Ave. and 80th St. at 10 a.m. Check JHBG's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/JHBGNY) for more details. You can also get on our e-mail list by writing to volunteer@jhb.org, with “Tree LC” in the subject line.

Now, back to the energy efficiency of New York City homes. I said they are *potentially* more energy efficient, because too many heating systems are old and inefficient, overheating lower floors in order to get enough heat to top floors, hence this old joke:

Q: What's a New York City thermostat?

A: An open window.

OK, it may not be that funny, but it's true. Too many people end up regulating the heat in their apartment by opening their windows.

There are ways to correct this. The openings in radiator vents vary in size, so that those with the smallest holes should be installed on the lowest floors and those with the largest holes on the top floor. Also, many of our buildings have been renovated. A while back my co-op building learned one of the chronically underheated apartments was *missing* two radiators. You don't need an engineer to figure out how to solve that problem and save money, too.

So, there it is. One of the best ways to battle global warming is to live in a classic, compact city neighborhood, where you can walk and use a well-developed transit system to get around. Just like Jackson Heights. Sorry, Phoenix.

To read more about this subject, check out: www.hopesandfears.com/hopes/city/city_index/216917-city-index-carbon-emissions

<https://planetnyc.wordpress.com/2016/02/02/in-queens-a-subway-too-far/>



Gardening at the Post Office on 37th Ave.

SAVE THE DATE!

JHBG's 26th annual

HALLOWEEN PARADE

is coming on Monday, October 31!



The route is from 89th St. to 76th St. on 37th Ave.

It starts at 5 p.m.

Watch for more information on the
JHBG website, Facebook page and posters around town!

The Greening of Jackson Heights

By Stephen LaMarch and Len Maniace

The “beautification” in JHBG's name means making our neighborhood as green as possible. Over the last several months, JHBG and dedicated volunteers have been watering the trees on 37th Ave., planting flowers and plants in the curbside gardens (formerly called tree pits, but curbside garden both sounds nicer and is more accurate), and protecting these urban gardens with tree guards. Over the last two years, JHBG has installed 20 heavy-duty steel tree guards on the avenue. Recently, NYC Parks has joined our effort and installed nine identical tree guards on 37th Ave. and along 75th St.

Given how hot and dry it was this summer, JHBG volunteers did a great job, watering on both Saturdays and Wednesdays. The watering, planting and clean-up campaign throughout the summer will help ensure healthy trees next spring, keeping JH prettier, cooler and greener.

With temperatures dropping soon, curbside garden maintenance will continue to be important. Litter from people, dog excrement that is not picked up and carbon monoxide from vehicles do serious damage to the trees. If you spot damaged or weak-looking trees along 37th Ave., please contact the NYC Dept. of Parks and Recreation (<https://www.nycgovparks.org/services/forestry/request/submit>).

And the greening can continue! If you are a property owner, you can have a tree planted on your street for free! Submit a service request through the Tree Service Request System (use the above URL and select "Tree Planting Request") or by calling 311. After making your request, you will receive an identification number to track its status. The next planting season is October through December. By working together, we can continue to keep JH one of the greenest neighborhoods in NYC.

In future weeks, JHBG will be planting more flowering perennials in the curbside gardens. Autumn is a great time to plant perennials because the weather is cool enough so the plants can get established quickly and will be in great shape by the time next summer arrives.

If you would like to help keep JH's trees healthy or help with planting, see our “Tree LC” notices on JHBG's Facebook page (www.facebook.com/JHBGNY) or write to volunteer@jhbg.org, with *Tree LC* in the subject line. There are many ways to reach us, and we hope that you do! We'd love to see you out there!

Gardening in Jackson Heights

By Nuala O'Doherty

This was a busy summer gardening around Jackson Heights. The largest transformation was along the BQE exit ramp onto Northern Blvd., which was transformed from weeds and trash into a garden filled with sunflowers. JHBG is also working with the gas station owners so that they'll help keep the area clean.

For the fourth year, JHBG has worked with the local public schools to plant gardens. This year, gardens were planted at:

PS 149 (34th Ave. and 93rd St.)

PS 69 (77th St. and 37th Ave.)

PS 280 (94th St. and 35th Ave.)

IS 145 (79th St. and 34th Ave.)

IS 230 (73rd St. and 34th Ave.)



JHBG gardeners

PS 149 and PS 69 are two of the few public spaces in the neighborhood with grass, and JHBG is working to make that grass grow greener. Over the years, the (most likely) original bushes planted when the buildings were built in the last century have been removed. The bushes were too large and overgrown to trim, so, over time, and with the help of funds from ConEdison and the Citizens Committee for New York City, they were removed, and JHBG and the schools planted new shrubs.

Other work completed this summer was the garden in front of the Post Office (on 37th Ave.), the trees planted in front of the public library (on 81st St.) and

(cont. on p. 12)

EN ESPAÑOL

La Operación LeafDrop está de vuelta en Jackson Heights

Por Lenny Olsson

En esta época del año se deposita en la basura gran cantidad de bolsas llenas de hojas secas que podrían usarse de otras maneras, por ejemplo entregándolas a JH SCRAPs, nuestro sitio de compost, durante la Operación LeafDrop, donde serán recibidas todos los sábados de noviembre de las 11:00 a. m. a la 1:00 p. m. (excepto en los días de clima extremo). Pedimos que las hojas sean empaquetadas en bolsas de plástico transparente o en bolsas de papel café para evitar confundirlas con las bolsas negras de basura, además esto nos permite conservarlas cuando no sea posible procesarlas de inmediato.

Una nueva URL solo para Jackson Heights

Por Tom Lowenhaupt, Connecting.nyc

En fechas recientes, Connecting.nyc Inc., asociación sin fines de lucro con base en Jackson Heights, solicitó al Gobierno de la Ciudad un permiso para crear el dominio JacksonHeights.nyc. Es un placer informar que nuestra solicitud fue aprobada en agosto. Puedes leer sobre la solicitud del permiso de Connecting.nyc Inc. en <http://bit.ly/JH-licenseApplication>. Si deseas saber más sobre esta organización visita la página www.Connecting.nyc, o para ser voluntario y hacer sugerencias escribe a Tom@connecting.nyc.

Reverdecimiento de Jackson Heights

Por Stephen LaMarch y Len Maniace

En meses pasados JHBG y un grupo de voluntarios han estado regando los árboles de la avenida 37 y sembrando flores y otras plantas en las jardineras. Durante los dos últimos dos años, JHBG ha instalado 20 protecciones de acero reforzado a los árboles de la avenida. NYC Parks se ha unido al esfuerzo e instalado, por su parte, nueve protecciones entre la avenida 37 y la calle 75. Sin embargo, aún hay mucho por hacer: si alguno de los árboles de la calle 37 se debilita o alguna jardinera resulta dañada, contacta al Departamento de Parques y Recreación de la Ciudad de Nueva York (www.ycgovparks.org/services/forestry/request/submit). Si eres propietario puedes pedir que planten un árbol en tu calle al Sistema del Servicio de Solicitud de Árboles (utiliza la URL anterior y selecciona "Tree Planting Request") o llamar al 311. Y si te gustaría mantener sanos nuestros árboles ve las noticias de "Tree LC", visita la página de FB o escríbenos a volunteer@jhb.org con la palabra *Tree LC* en la línea de asunto.

El cuidado de jardines en Jackson Heights

Por Nuala O'Doherty

En este verano hemos transformado, de maleza y basura a un jardín de girasoles, la rampa de salida de la BQE hacia Northern Blvd. Por cuarto año consecutivo, JHBG ha colaborado con las escuelas públicas locales para arreglar jardines. Este año las escuelas beneficiadas fueron: PS 149, PS 69, PS 280, IS 145 e IS 230. Además se hicieron trabajos frente a la oficina de correos de la calle 37, se plantaron árboles frente a la biblioteca pública de la calle 81 y la biblioteca Langston Huges en Northern Blvd.

The Queens Consort

Por Claire Smith Bermingham, Queens Consort

En el otoño de 2015, profesionales de música barroca y las residentes de Queens, Claire Smith Bermingham (de Jackson Heights) y Margret Hjaltested (de Sunnyside) decidieron formar un ensamble en y para el distrito de Queens. Así nació The Queens Consort. Desde sus comienzos, la Iglesia de St. Mark y de la escuela de música Third Street de Manhattan han apoyado la labor del grupo. El ensamble regresa esta temporada con nuevos conciertos. Para más información visite la página www.queensconsort.com.

Calendario de eventos: otoño 2016

JHBG te invita a participar en los siguientes eventos. Visítanos en Facebook (www.facebook.com/JHBGNY) o en nuestra página web (www.JHBG.org) para ver horarios, lugares y cambios en los eventos. Si te interesa ser voluntario, escríbenos a volunteer@jhb.org

JH-SCRAPS está abierto todo el año. Se localiza en la calle 69 y la avenida 35; abre todos los sábados de 11:00 a. m. a 1:00 p. m. Para más información, escribe a jhscraps@jhb.org.

Sábados de septiembre y octubre:

- De 10:00 a. m. a 12:00 p. m. Proyectos de jardinería en Jackson Heights. Visita nuestra página de Facebook para actualizaciones o escribe a FODoherty@aol.com.
- A las 10:00 a. m. Tree LC y trabajo en jardineras.

Lunes 31 de octubre:

Desfile de Halloween de JHBG. Véase el recordatorio "Save the Date!" de la página 5.

Sábado 19 de noviembre:

Concierto del The Queens Consort en la Iglesia de St. Mark a las 7:00 p. m.

Queens Borough President Visits JH SCRAPS After Expansion of Site

By Lenny Olsson

Queens Borough President Melinda Katz visited the JH SCRAPS site on May 7 to take a tour of the site and to find out more about the composting work being done in Jackson Heights. This visit marked the culmination of an expansion that has been in the works for a while.

Katz's visit coincided with activities celebrating International Compost Awareness Week. The president was able to tour the site and was informed of future plans JHBG has in store for the further development of the site. Plans include the installation of a shed to protect equipment, as well as plans to rehabilitate the green patch of soil from a mugwort haven to one populated by native plants. She met members of the Green Team of P.S. 69, which created displays that focused on aspects of composting as well as other recycling and reuse efforts. Not content to simply look around, the president also took a turn aerating the active compost pile.

A new fence was constructed parallel to 35th Ave. that opened up an unused section of the area controlled by the New York State Department of Transportation. The fence allowed access to one part while still restricting access to the rest of the site (including the equipment maintained by the New York City Department of Environmental Protection). This expansion doubled the available space for JH SCRAPS, and it was immediately put to use with the delivery of 14 pallets of compost from the Department of Sanitation's Fresh Kills operation.

The composting site on Staten Island was suspended in order to provide some much-needed maintenance. Sanitation put out a call for sites able to store large quantities of bagged compost that would be easily accessible. The pallets were stored on the asphalt area of the new expansion. JHBG has been using the compost all around the neighborhood in its gardening efforts.

Future plans for JH SCRAPS call not only for a shed, but also a generator to run the leaf shredder and wood chipper. If additional funds are available, then JH SCRAPS hopes to install an outdoor bulletin board on the gate to function as a message board to give passers-by hours of operation as well as act as a neighborhood information board for other activities happening around Jackson Heights.



Planting in the rain



Hard work breaking up hard soil

LaGuardia Airport Departures Increase Over Jackson Heights and Woodside

By Brian F. Will, Queens Quiet Skies

Industry advocates often cite LaGuardia Airport as the primary culprit in a malfunctioning National Airspace System. Some even say that LaGuardia's operational problems are responsible for the majority of our nation's flight delays. A former air traffic controller recently looked at real-time data concerning these statements and found the claims to be unsupported (see <http://aireform.com/debunking-the-a4a-oped-letter-at-timesledger/>).

Nonetheless, LaGuardia has changed its operations drastically over the past several years to combat a perceived inefficiency. In Jackson Heights, an enduring runway construction project is the primary cause of an 80 percent increase in departures since 2008. Data from a FOIA request of the Port Authority filed by Queens Quiet Skies shows that, in 2014, when the construction project began, departures over Jackson Heights rose swiftly. As of August 2016, the departures have only marginally decreased.

The departure route over Jackson Heights is a NextGen route called JUTES. The severity of JUTES departures is far worse than others in the region. The Port Authority's Webtrak site shows that the local L22 noise monitor exceeded 100 decibels in many instances. The federal limit is 65 decibels.

If you'd like to do more than wait for the construction to end, the next step is to remain active in community advocacy. Here are some steps that you can take to help:

1. Continue to file electronic complaints with the Port Authority at www.planenoise.com/panynj/daPRAbr9/.
2. E-mail complaints to the Federal Aviation Administration at 9-AWA-NoiseOmbudsman@faa.gov.
3. Write Queens Borough President Melinda Katz at ybokser@queensbp.org.
4. Stay in touch with Queens Quiet Skies at www.Queensquietskies.org. We'd love to hear from you.
5. File a Port Authority FOIA request of your own at <http://corpinfo.panynj.gov/pages/public-records-access-form/>.

6. File a FOIA request of the FAA at www.faa.gov/foia/foia_request/.

Jackson Heights is currently leading with noise complaints. Help Queens Quiet Skies keep up the work and advocacy.



Fighting back overgrown weeds



Another successful Summer Sundays in the Park

The Queens Consort

By Claire Smith Bermingham, The Queens Consort

In fall 2015, professional baroque musicians and Queens residents Claire Smith Bermingham (Jackson Heights) and Margret Hjaltested (Sunnyside) decided to form an early music ensemble based in and for the borough of Queens, thus forming The Queens Consort. They chose friends and likewise renowned professionals as their personnel for the group, and approached St. Mark's Episcopal Church in Jackson Heights for potential concerts.

Given the great acoustics and beauty of the space, Claire felt St. Mark's was an ideal venue for a setting of baroque music. "We are inspired to bring authentic period instrument performances to the Queens community," said Claire. "We value historically informed performance practices to study and recreate the original intentions of the composers and strive to reflect this in our music. We will always play concerts in Manhattan, but our primary goal is to bring early music to our beautiful borough of Queens."

The group plays period stringed instruments with gut strings, in baroque style and at a baroque pitch (A = 415hz versus the modern pitch of A = 440hz). Midway through their first season, the group realized the difficulties that come with not owning your own harpsichord, namely, the renting of appropriate instruments for performance and also finding rehearsal spaces with a harpsichord to accommodate everyone's busy professional schedules. Through a fortunate series of events, they were able to find, ship and repair a beautiful Flemish single manual harpsichord from a former loving owner in time for their Yuletide concert, which they now use for their rehearsals in Jackson Heights; the instrument also travels with them to their shows for performance. The group held a naming contest for the instrument from their audience-goers, and after many submissions the name "Oriana" was selected, which was a nickname of Queen Elizabeth I. The winning submission was timely, as it coincided with the group's spring concert, which featured all early English repertoire.

The ensemble created and performed an entire first season and received much local help and acclaim along the way. Both St. Mark's Church and the Third Street Music School in Manhattan (America's oldest community music school) were instrumental in providing concert spaces for the group to get its start. The group's inaugural concerts were held in October at both venues to large audiences. Yuletide and spring concerts followed at St. Mark's, along with a concert at Saint Peter's

Church in Manhattan, and two independently sponsored private concert events. Likewise, local Jackson Heights' businesses and friends, Espresso 77, Ultima Florals and Table Wine helped spread the word about their concerts to the neighborhood.

The Queens Consort is embarking on an exciting second season and already has booked its season dates for 2016–17. The group will return to the Third Street Music School on Friday, November 18 and to St. Mark's Church on Saturday, November 19, both at 7 p.m. Each concert will be one hour in length with no intermission, and the St. Mark's concert will be followed by a festive reception with food and wine. The group will hold another Yuletide concert at St. Mark's featuring baroque music for the winter season. In the spring, the group will be featured on a GEMS Midtown Concert series concert at St. Bartholomew's Church in Manhattan, as well as performing a spring performance at St. Mark's. For more information on these concerts and the remainder of the season dates, please visit their website at www.queensconsort.com. The Queens Consort would like to thank all the local Queens and Manhattan residents who have made donations to the group, thereby guaranteeing a second season of shows for our communities.



Members of The Queens Consort (L. to R.):
Aya Hamada, Harpsichord; Margret Hjaltested, Founding Director and Baroque Viola; Claire Smith Bermingham, Founding Director and Baroque Violin; Anneke Schaul-Yoder, Baroque Cello;
Dan McCarthy, Baroque Violin

The Queens Consort

2016-17 Concert Schedule

All concerts are at 7 p.m.

Fri., Nov. 18, Third Street
Music School, Manhattan

Sat., Nov. 19, St. Mark's
Church, Jackson Heights,
with reception to follow

Sat., Dec. 17, St. Mark's
Church, Jackson Heights,
with reception to follow

Thurs., Mar. 23, GEMS/
Midtown Concert Series

Fri, Apr. 21, Venue TBD

Sat, Apr. 22, St. Mark's
Church, Jackson Heights,
with reception to follow

**ANOTHER
SAVE THE DATE!**

*There's more music to heard
in Jackson Heights!*

**The Jackson Heights
Orchestra is also gearing
up for its next season**

All concerts are at 7:30 p.m.

December 14, 2016

March 15, 2017

May 17, 2017

St. Mark's Church
33-50 82nd Ave.

Operation LeafDrop Is On Again In Jackson Heights

(cont. from p. 1)

improvement stores. We make this request for two reasons. First, it has been our experience in the past that occasionally someone accidentally includes a bag of regular garbage because everything is in black plastic bags. Second, depending on the volume, we may not process all the bags as soon as they arrive, and thus we may store them at the site until we can weigh them and spread out the contents in our leaf bin. Having them in black bags gives the wrong impression to neighbors that we are storing regular garbage, not leaves. By having them in paper or clear bags, there can be no mistaking what is inside the bags.

JH SCRAPS appreciates any bags of leaves that you bring to us ... and, in the process, don't send to landfills.

Gardening in Jackson Heights

(cont. from p. 6)

the Langston Hughes Library (on Northern Blvd. and 100th St). This fall and next spring, additional work will be done on these projects.

Along with all this new work, JHBG also worked to maintain the original gardens along 69th St. Colorful leafy plants are planted to grow after the tulips fade each year. With great help from some neighbors, JHBG has been trying to keep 69th St. litter-free. Two volunteers worked to transform that area next to the BQE at 34th Ave. from the weed-strewn field into a garden.

JHBG works with a great group of about 15 regular volunteers who show up every Saturday morning, rain or shine. Many people also drop in to help when they're available; everyone is welcome to join us! Tools, gloves and water are provided, so you only need to bring yourself. Each season (except in winter, of course), we publish a list of where we will be working. However, you can always find the latest information on JHBG's Facebook page, which is www.facebook.com/JHBGNY. We hope that you can join us in adding beauty to our lovely neighborhood!

Licensed to Prune

JHBG works with nonprofit TreesNY to keep our street trees going strong, an effort that includes tree pruning. TreesNY is now enrolling for Citizen Pruner classes at locations in Manhattan, Brooklyn and Queens. In Queens, it will be held at the Bohemian Beer Hall and Garden in Astoria, which is just off the N train. Classes begin early October. This multipart class culminates in a license to prune street trees. For more info, go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/fall-2016-citizen-pruner-courses-tickets-27388173765>



Never too young to help plant daffodils!

JHBG's Tree LC program cares for our street trees and turns barren tree pits into curbside gardens. These will need periodic watering and maintenance work this autumn. Interested in helping? We send out notices by e-mail, so please get on our e-mail list by writing to volunteer@jhbg.org, with *Tree LC* in the subject line.

Calendar of Events: Autumn 2016

JHBG invites your participation in the following events. Stay the entire time, part of the time, offer your expertise or learn something new! JHBG provides the tools, and volunteers of all ages are welcome. Watch our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/JHBGNY) or website (www.JHBG.org) for times, locations and any changes to the following. We hope to see you out there! To volunteer, contact us at volunteer@jhbg.org.

JH-SCRAPS is open year-round

Every Saturday bring your scraps to JH-SCRAPS, 69th St. and 35th Ave. between 11 a.m.–1 p.m. JH-SCRAPS is JHBG's composting location. For info on what is compostable, write to jhscraps@jhbg.org.

September

- **Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-noon:** Gardening projects around Jackson Heights. Check out JHBG's Facebook page for updates and locations, or e-mail FODoherty@aol.com.
- **Saturdays, from 10 a.m.:** Tree LC and tree pit gardening. For schedules, check out JHBG's Facebook page for updates and locations. Write to volunteer@jhbg.org to get on our e-mail list. Insert *Tree LC* in the subject line.

October

- **Mon., Oct. 31:** JHBG's Halloween Parade. See the save-the-date reminder in this issue.
- **Saturdays, from 10 a.m.-noon:** Gardening projects around Jackson Heights. Check out JHBG's Facebook page for updates and locations, or e-mail FODoherty@aol.com.
- **Saturdays, from 10 a.m.:** Tree LC and tree pit gardening. For schedules, check out JHBG's Facebook page for updates and locations. Write to volunteer@jhbg.org to get on our e-mail list. Insert *Tree LC* in the subject line.

November

- **Sat., Nov. 19:** The Queens Consort Concert, St. Mark's Church, 7 p.m. Reception follows.



VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Volume 27 Number 1
Autumn 2016

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JHBG Gets It Done!

Greenmarket
Halloween Parade
JH SCRAPs Compost Center
Landmark Advocacy
Tree LC
Holiday Lighting Ceremony
Historic Weekend Tours
Summer Sundays in the Park Concerts
Green Agenda for Jackson Heights
JH CREW dog park
Friends of Travers Park
78th Street Plaza & Garden
Garden School Athletic Field Purchase
69th Street Green Zone
Candidate & Issue Town Hall Meetings
Landing Lights Ball Field Restoration
Make Music New York
Jackson Heights Orchestra
Graffiti Removal
Garden Club
Community Awards
Views from the Heights newsletter
Jackson Heights Art Contest
Local history books -
Jackson Heights:
A Garden in the City,
Jackson Heights:
From Ice Age to Space Age

 Jackson Heights
Beautification Group
Founded in 1988
www.jhbg.org
info@jhbg.org

Membership Form for Jackson Heights Beautification Group

Your annual donation/membership in JHBG helps us fund neighborhood activities, demonstrates your commitment to a better community and permits us to be your voice in the revitalization of Jackson Heights. Your support is important to the future of our neighborhood. JHBG is 100 percent volunteer—there is no paid staff. JHBG is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, and your contribution is tax deductible.

Please make checks payable to: Jackson Heights Beautification Group.

You will be mailed a receipt for tax purposes.

Please fill out this page and return it with your payment to:

JHBG — Membership
Box 720253
Jackson Heights, NY 11372

1. Please circle membership level

Individual—\$25

Business—\$50

Sustaining—\$100

Patron—\$250

Benefactor—\$500

Sponsor—\$1,000

Other _____

2. Please print the following:

Name: _____

Address (include apt. #): _____

City/State/Zip: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Optional: Daytime Phone: _____ Evening Phone: _____

3. Are you interested in being contacted about any of the following JHBG activities? If so, please circle the appropriate one(s).

Friends of Travers Park

Garden Club (including flower planting)

Tree LC

JH SCRAPS

Jackson Heights Orchestra

Graffiti Busters

Newsletter

Website

Town Halls

Membership Building

Historic Weekend

Halloween Parade

Other: _____

4. Suggestions or Comments:

THANK YOU! If you have any questions or concerns, contact JHBG at 718-565-5344 or at info@jhb.org.



Jackson Heights
Beautification Group, Ltd.
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VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Mark Your Calendars

JHBG's Halloween Parade

October 31, 2016

See the save-the-date page in this issue,
and check JHBG's website for more details

Jackson Heights Orchestra has upcoming concerts

Check out page 11 for the dates