



# VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS

Volume 30, No. 3  
Fall 2019

Jackson Heights  
Beautification Group

[www.JHBG.org](http://www.JHBG.org)

Jackson Heights – “A Garden in the City”

## JHBG's Children's Halloween Parade Marks 29th Year

BY JOHN J. MCCAFFREY JR.

**T**housands of participants are expected at the Jackson Heights Beautification Group's annual Children's Halloween Parade on Wednesday, October 31 at 5:00pm.

The parade will kick off from 89th Street and proceed along 37th Avenue to 76th Street where dozens of volunteers will distribute more than 3,200 goodie bags to the children.

New York City's largest such event specifically for children, the parade regularly includes over a dozen local schools, as well as marching bands.

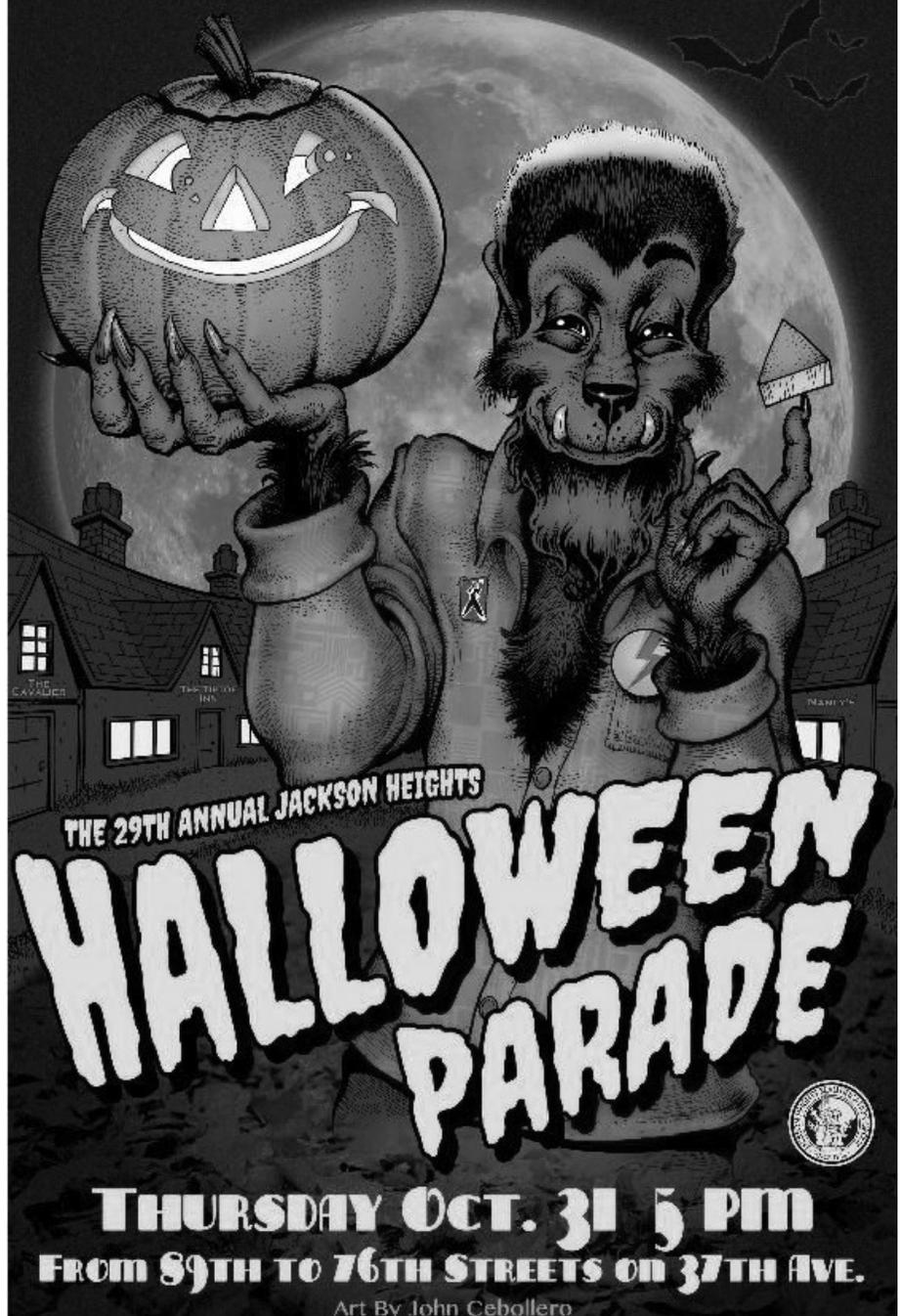
Participants in past years have included: P.S. 69, P.S. 89, P.S. 148, P.S. 149, P.S. 212, P.S. 222, P.S. 228, P.S. 280, I.S. 230, I.S. 145, 82nd Street Academics, Garden School, Lexington School for the Deaf, The Renaissance Charter School, St. Joan of Arc, JHELIC, Performing Arts of Conservatory of New York, and Brownie Troop #4545, Troop #4545, and welcoming P.S. 398 for their first Halloween in Jackson Heights.

The goody bags, distributed to all the children at the end of the parade, is a feature unique to the JHBG Halloween parade possible through the support of additional groups, like Dime Savings Bank which provides the bags. Preparing those bags is achieved through the efforts of dozens of volunteers, who on Tuesday, October 30th, will be packing them.

Very much a neighborhood event, the parade would be impossible without the financial support of JHBG, local merchants, organizations, and individuals especially the many volunteers who prepare and distribute the bags, and coordinate all the participants.

Come out and enjoy!

SPONSORED BY THE JACKSON HEIGHTS BEAUTIFICATION GROUP  
CO-CHAIRS JOHN MCCAFFREY JR., DAVID O'DOHERTY AND EDWIN O'KEEFE WESTLEY



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## From the Editor

### Welcome to our fall 2019 edition of *The Views from Jackson Heights!*

Jackson Heights has had a very busy summer indeed, beginning with the reopening of the new and improved Travers Park. Notwithstanding the ongoing dispute with the Koepfel car dealership over the 78th Street access, the park is being used and enjoyed by all. We have had family activities like art classes, and yoga, and of course, our Summer Sundays concerts are finally back in the park.

Our cleaning and greening efforts throughout the neighborhood have continued with flower and vegetable plantings in the public gardens and those of our local schools. Beautification has additionally included scraping and priming

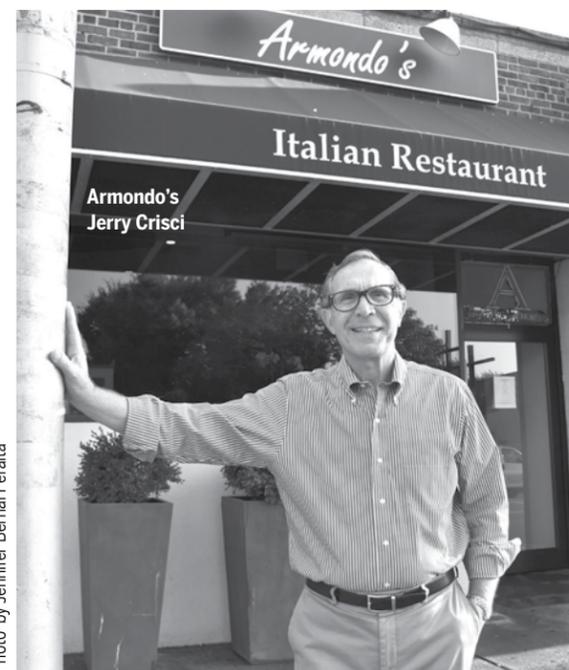
Cheers,  
Louise Mulvihill, Editor

the fence at P.S. 148, tree caring all along 37th Ave., and the flowers that were planted on the hill at the northwest corner of 35th Ave. and 69th St. were in full bloom, welcoming the students and staff of P.S. 398 for their first day of school.

The fall is here and we can delight in the abundance of fare from our own Jackson Heights Greenmarket, as well as gearing up for the annual Halloween Parade which this year continues to be an exciting event for young and not so young.

I hope you enjoy this fall edition and encourage you to send us articles and photos of your life in Jackson Heights. We will try to include as much as we can, but appreciate any and all submissions at [info@jhb.org](mailto:info@jhb.org).

## Armondo's Restaurant



### If you wouldn't give this dish to your mother, don't serve it in your restaurant!™

That's the philosophy of Jerry Crisci, the owner of Armondo's Restaurant, located at 7316 Northern Blvd. in Jackson Heights.

The story of Armondo's Restaurant started in Naples, Italy, where Jerry was born. He began his career as a school teacher, but he wasn't making much money. His uncle let him know that there was a restaurant for sale in the area. Jerry visited the original Armondo's on the corner of 37th Ave and 76th St. and decided to buy it. He didn't have any restaurant experience, but he did have a passion for great food and great service. He only planned on owning the restaurant for a few years, but 42 years later, he was still in business.

Everything changed when a fire broke on the third floor of the building where the restaurant was located. The five-alarm fire lasted 14 hours, but did not spread to the restaurant on the ground floor. Unfortunately, there was extensive water damage, which

forced the restaurant to shut down. Ten months later, while the restaurant was still being repaired, Jerry found Armondo's new home through word of mouth, and purchased it from the retiring owner. Jerry and his staff opened the new restaurant, where they continued to serve the classic Italian dishes such as lasagna, chicken parmigiana and risotto.

A new addition to the Northern Blvd. location is the white Vespa hanging over the bar. About 10 years ago, Jerry went to Italy. He was offered an espresso while visiting his uncle at the gas station he owned. Jerry looked around and wondered where the espresso would come from since he didn't see anywhere to make coffee. His uncle made a phone call, and a few moments later, a 10 year-old boy riding a Vespa brought the espresso to him on a tray. That moment left an impression and he wanted to bring that same level of service to the new location. The Vespa serves as a reminder of that moment, and symbolizes exceptional customer service.

**Armondo's Italian Restaurant 7316 Northern Boulevard.**  
Closed on Tuesdays. 20% discount on Mon., Wed. & Thurs. for customers paying in cash. Free delivery directly from the restaurant. 718-899-0035 or 718-898-0113

# President's Message

BY NUALA O'DOHERTY

In the last year, the Jackson Heights Beautification Group brought over 100 events to the neighborhood. While you may know; the annual Halloween Parade, Tree Lighting, Orchestra events, Saturday gardening, the Historic Weekend and Summer Sundays, this year we've added even more community-building activities. This past summer, JHBG held weekly events for kids and families every Wednesday and Thursday including Bollywood and Salsa dance classes and a crowd favorite, Joe the Magician. This fall we added yoga on the hill at Travers Park and have expanded our Coffee with the Principal program to even more local schools. My personal favorite event this summer was viewing Saturn's rings, Jupiter and the moon's craters with the

help of three astronomers who came to Travers Park for evenings of stargazing.

JHBG creates spaces and places where neighbors can interact and have shared experiences in an effort to build a stronger community. Holding these events requires money. You can help by becoming a member, donating or attending our Holiday Fundraiser. Membership and donations can be made online at [www.JHBG.org](http://www.JHBG.org) or by filling out and mailing in the form on the back of the newsletter. Our Holiday Fundraiser, which will be held at the Queensboro Restaurant, is on **Monday, December 2nd** at 7 pm.



Enjoying a Summer Sunday!

Tickets are \$100 and are available on our website, or e-mail [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org), or call us at **347-766-9129**.

As a 100% volunteer organization, every dollar goes to building community here in Jackson Heights. Please support our community by making a donation.

## Summer Sundays

BY RHODA DUNN

**2019 Summer Sundays' new time and location was a huge success.** A good time was had by all who attended this eclectic mix of music and theater. For many who came, the new 6pm start time provided a great way to enjoy live music and have a picnic dinner with friends, family and their Jackson Heights neighbors. The new location, in the handball court of the newly-renovated Travers Park provided a lot of shade that added to the audience's enjoyment during the dark days of summer. The amazing musicians and artist took us on a musical journey around the world and the lineup

included DJ Rekha, Cumbia River Band, Afroskull, Vanessa Rubin and Vinny & the Presently Unknown, to name a few.

A big thank you to Joe Knipes for his programming genius and to Vinny Mongeluzo—the best sound engineer in town, as well as the following volunteers: Tammy Rose, Lisa Koss, Louise Mulvihill, Peter Naranjo, George Patrick Naranjo, Nuala Naranjo and of course, JHBG president Nuala O'Doherty. Stay tuned for next year's line-up and see you in the park.

—Rhoda Dunn,  
Licensed Real Estate Salesperson



Summer Sundays is funded by the Queens Council for the Arts, City Council Member Daniel Dromm, Borough President Melinda Katz, and our partners include the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, which hosts the concert site.

## Podcast for Street Safety



Alfonso Quiroz, Christina Furlong and Laura Newman

Check out Jackson Heights Beautification Group's latest podcast about street safety including an in-depth interview with two long-time neighborhood bike advocates Laura Newman and Cristina Furlong. They discuss biking as it currently exists in the neighborhood and the city, new safety plans like protected bike lanes, the recent tragedies, and proposed legislation among other things. The podcasts are on SoundCloud as "Views from The Heights".

This podcast is the brainchild of JHBG First Vice President, Evie McKenna, who is the executive producer. It is hosted by Jackson Heights neighbor Alfonso Quiroz, is our fifth such podcast on local events, and is a two-part podcast.

**Part 1: [soundcloud.com/user-570401025/cycling-in-new-york-city-part-1](https://soundcloud.com/user-570401025/cycling-in-new-york-city-part-1)**

**Part 2: [soundcloud.com/user-570401025/cycling-in-nyc-part-2](https://soundcloud.com/user-570401025/cycling-in-nyc-part-2)**

For more on the Northern Blvd. redesign and making Queens safer for pedestrians and cyclists, see page 8.

# The Gardens of Jackson Heights

PHOTOS BY JENNIFER BERNAL PERALTA



**1** This is our largest garden at 64th St. and Northern Blvd. This is a productive vegetable garden cultivated by Angel and Rosa Naranjo and their family with the help of their friend Julia Turcios. While the garden was only started two years ago, they have had two great harvests.

**2** Jackson Heights has become famous for our sunflowers. Each August the exit ramp of the BQE at Northern Blvd is shrouded in a blanket of sunflowers. This tradition was started by Rodrigo Salazar, but has been continued with the diligent work of our JHBG gardener Rafael Rodriguez.

**3** JHBG's hill of flowers is directly across from our newest school P.S. 398. The hill was curated by JHBG gardener Lucia Kerrigan who lives across the street and has worked all summer to have the hill of flowers ready for the start of the school year.

**4** Evie McKenna has been working for the past few years to beautify the median along 34th Ave. in the 70s. She has been working with the Parks Department to

better maintain the area and has worked to plant flowers and sunflowers.

**5** Len Maniace last year revamped the entire garden in front of the JH Post Office. This year flowers bloomed attracting butterflies and bees.

**6** Before and after shots of one of our newer efforts on 65th St. between 35th and 37th Aves.

**7** The garden at I.S. 230 is small, but with the help of students from Ms. Flynn's Afterschool Club, tomatoes, basil, and flowers flourished.

**8** The garden around I.S. 145 is the largest, non-vegetable garden JHBG maintains. Upon the completion of the school's long-term construction project, we will excitedly garden further along 80th St. once all the construction equipment is removed.

**9** The garden at P.S. 69 had a hard year. Between the construction and scaffolding and the removal of the

majestic tree in front (which was sad but necessary as the tree was dying). Over the past few years we have worked to build a healthy lawn around the school as well as flower beds at the main entrance.

**10** The garden at P.S. 148 has come a long way in the past few years. Volunteers have worked with the school custodians to maintain a lush green lawn. Each year we have been adding flowers for color. This year JHBG volunteers undertook repainting the school's wrought iron fence which is still a work in progress.

**11** The garden at P.S. 149 is one of our oldest gardens. JHBG has been working on the garden for over five years. Each spring the school is surrounded by tulips and daffodils. There are four raised beds on the East side of the school with herbs and vegetables, and over the years the trumpet flower vines have been slowly working their way up the wall.

**12** The garden at P.S. 280 has the most raised beds for growing vegetables in all

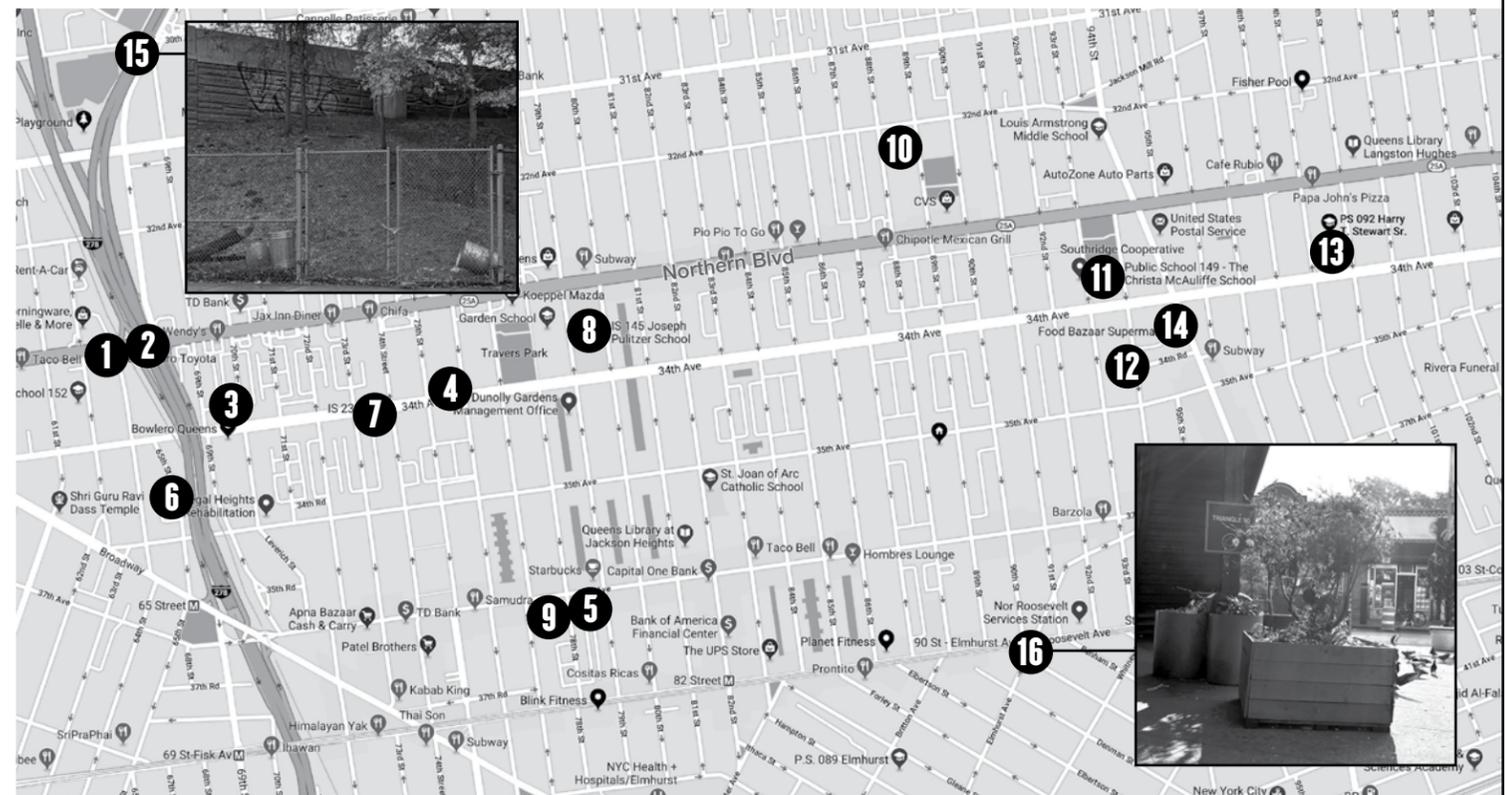
our schools. With the help of the PTA, the families help to plant and care for the flowers and vegetables.

**13** JHBG volunteers and P.S. 92 have an afterschool club with over 30 4th and 5th graders who take care of the school garden. This year, the students celebrated with Captain Planet harvesting tomatoes and greens for a salad of truly locally grown food.

**14** Food Bazaar garden along the parking lot on 34th Ave. has been growing now for seven years. It is cared for by neighbor James Pirone and hotdog vendor Luis Vasquez.

**15** Our newest efforts at the corner of 68th St. and 30th Ave. and the BQE.

**16** The garden at the 90th Street subway station is all in containers, but still has numerous trees and bushes. It is watered by local street vendor Mario Dutan Arithaga.





## El desfile infantil de Halloween del JHBG cumple 28 años

POR JOHN J. MCCAFFREY JR. El miércoles 31 de octubre a las 5:00 p. m. se esperan miles de participantes en el desfile infantil de Halloween que JHBG realiza cada año. El desfile comenzará en la calle 89 y continuará por la Avenida 37 hasta la calle 76, donde docenas de voluntarios distribuirán más de 3 200 bolsas de dulces. El desfile, evento más grande de Nueva York específicamente para niños, incluye regularmente docenas de escuelas y bandas de marcha. Las bolsas de dulces, distintivo único del desfile del JHBG, dependen del apoyo de grupos adicionales, como Dime Savings Bank, quien

proporciona las bolsas este año en nuestra nueva escuela pública PS 398.

## Premio 2019 al Buen Vecino

POR LESLIE ELLMAN Cada dos años el JHBG patrocina al Buen Vecino. El premio hace honor a algunos de los muchos que trabajan incansablemente por mejorar nuestro vecindario. Desde 2013, el JHBG ha revivido la tradición de homenajear a quienes hacen de nuestro vecindario el gran lugar que es para vivir y trabajar. Entre los nominados anteriormente se encuentran algunos negocios que rescatan la tradición arquitectónica del vecindario e individuos que hacen voluntariado para limpiar, enverdecer y abogar por la igualdad de derechos y el acceso a los servicios.

El proceso comienza con la propuesta de nominados. Si conoces a una persona, grupo o negocio que merezca reconocimiento por el trabajo que hace, escríbenos a [info@jhb.org](mailto:info@jhb.org).

## Domingos de verano

POR RHODA DUNN El nuevo horario y la ubicación de los Domingos de Verano de 2019 fue un gran éxito. La nueva ubicación, el campo de balonmano y el recientemente renovado Travers Park proporcionaron mucha sombra, sumada al disfrute de la audiencia durante el verano. Un gran agradecimiento a Joe Knipes por su programación y a Vinny Mongeluzo, el mejor ingeniero de sonido de la zona, así como a los siguientes voluntarios: Tammy Rose,

Lisa Koss, Louise Mulvihill, Peter Naranjo, George Patrick Naranjo, Nuala Naranjo y, por supuesto, a la presidenta del JHBG, Nuala O'Doherty. Manténganse al tanto del programa del próximo año y inos vemos en el parque!

## Rediseño de Northern Boulevard

POR CHRISTINA FURLONG En mis seis años desde que Laura Newman, Maribel Egicpiago y algunos otros se unieron para crear Make Queens Safer (Has de Queens un lugar más seguro) hemos visto un regreso lento hacia la concientización sobre la seguridad en la calle. Nuestra prioridad ha sido siempre prevenir la muerte de niños atropellados por conductores imprudentes. En Northern Boulevard, por

ejemplo, todos los días más 12 000 niños cruzan la calle para ir a la escuela. Por eso, necesitamos cambiar la idea de que es una autopista para quienes se trasladan del Este de Queens a Manhattan y diseñarla para conectar los vibrantes vecindarios de ambos lados. Afortunadamente, DOT ha estado implementado cambios poco a poco desde 2014. Se puede encontrar la planeación completa del proyecto, información, portal de retroalimentación y mapas en: [nycdotprojects.info/content/overview](http://nycdotprojects.info/content/overview).

## Diversión de verano entresemana en el nuevo Travers Park

POR MELISA ZAVALA Aunque Travers Park está aún en construcción, el área recientemente renovada en lo que era la calle de recreación en la calle 78 ha proporcionado una ubicación perfecta para que las familias del vecindario se congreguen y participen en agradables actividades comunitarias. Con el apoyo de la Legisladora de nuestro estado, Jessica Ramos, el JHBG y los Amigos de Travers Park co-patrocinaron dos eventos gratis entresemana, los miércoles por la mañana y los jueves por la noche, de julio a agosto, cada día con un foco especial: ofrecer actividades de construcción comunitaria a los residentes durante el verano. El JHBG planea hacer de la programación de verano un distintivo permanente como complemento a los Domingos en el Parque y a los conciertos en vivo de la Orquesta Jackson Heights. ¡Esperamos verte otra vez el

próximo verano! Un especial agradecimiento a todos los que nos apoyaron en los eventos de este verano.

## El Mercado Verde de Jackson Heights

POR LOUISE MULVIHILL Nuestro Vecindario tiene un grandioso atributo además de la gran diversidad y su acogedora actitud. Se trata del Mercado verde, que tiene ya 20 años en operación y abre todo el año. Se ubica en la calle 79, entre la Avenida 34 y Northern Boulevard. Ahí encontrarás verduras de temporada, productos de panadería y confitería, quesos y productos lácteos, huevos, pescado, carne, hierbas de olor y hasta un puesto para compost. Con el Día de Acción de Gracias ya cerca, es el lugar ideal para conseguir tus artículos favoritos para la mejor de las cenas familiares. En cualquier época del año, es un lugar obligado para visitar los domingos así sea solo para deleitarse con los sonidos y olores o encontrarse con los vecinos en sus agradables alrededores.

## Diversión de verano en el parque para perros de Jackson Heights

POR JERRY GOLDMAN Ha pasado otro gran verano en nuestro parque para perros apoyado por el JHBG. En julio tuvimos nuestro evento anual de limpieza con los voluntarios que asearon el parque, arrancaron hierbas, tiraron basura y reacomodaron la grava. El parque se localiza en la esquina noroeste de la calle 69 con la Avenida 35. La membresía es gratuita y está abierta a todos; sin embargo, sugerimos un donativo después de la inscripción para ayudar con nuestros gastos. Los formatos de solicitud se pueden descargar de la página: [www.jhb.org/programs/jhcrew](http://www.jhb.org/programs/jhcrew).

## Red de Solidaridad con Inmigrantes de Jackson Heights

La Red de Solidaridad con Inmigrantes de Jackson Heights (JHISN, por sus siglas en inglés) apoya a nuestros vecinos inmigrantes y a

sus familias mediante la movilización contra el racismo, la persecución y la xenofobia. *Creemos que ningún ser humano es ilegal.* Con política y retórica, Trump intensificó los ataques a inmigrantes este verano. La guerra contra inmigrantes que huyen de la violencia, la agitación económica causada por el cambio climático y las décadas de intervención en el triángulo norte de Centroamérica han ido escalando al ritmo del estribillo del nacionalismo blanco, amenazando a personas no blancas y latinos sin importar su estatus migratorio. Somos una organización de acción. Únete a nosotros para obtener la ciudadanía de los vecinos Alfredo Flores y Ferdoushi Sharif (firma sus cartas de petición en nuestra página web). Ve a la página [jhimmigrantsolidarity.org](http://jhimmigrantsolidarity.org) e inscríbete en la lista de contactos para informarte sobre nuestras reuniones, abiertas a todos los que quieren justicia para quienes persiguen el derecho de inmigrar.



# Northern Boulevard Redesign

BY CHRISTINA FURLONG

In my 6 years since neighbors Laura Newman, Maribel Egicpiago and a few others got together to form Make Queens Safer, we've seen a slow turn towards street safety awareness, which is often muddled with a senseless controversy around who deserves priority. *The Queens Chronicle* once gave the front page the controversial headline "Cars vs. Bikes", which did nothing for increasing awareness.

Our priority has always been to end the senseless and preventable deaths of school kids after three were killed in a matter of ten months in a pre Vision Zero 2012-2013. We lost children from P.S. 152, I.S. 145, I.S. 230 and were called by parents of a child seriously injured at P.S. 228. All over the neighborhood social media, we read about near misses, injuries and reckless driving in and around Jackson Heights.

Perhaps Make Queens Safer is famous for the many vigils we've had for children killed by reckless drivers. We don't want to be. We want to have a community that works together to improve traffic safety for all. Nobody is immune to traffic violence.

All of our kids and loved ones are at risk by reckless drivers, but on Northern Boulevard, we have more than 12,000 kids zoned to schools that force them to cross these six wide and fast lanes to get to class. We need to transition away from this idea that it is a highway for commuters from Eastern Queens to Manhattan and design it to intersect the vibrant neighborhoods on either side, where the majority of families are car-free and do not use vehicles for their daily errands, appointments, classes and programs along the corridor.

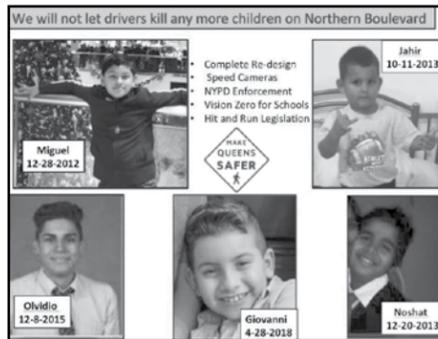
Fortunately, DOT has slowly been implementing changes since 2014. Since 2012, 13 people have been killed on the



4.3-mile corridor and between 2012 and 2016, there were 1,086 pedestrian, bicyclist, and vehicle occupant injuries. (NYC DOT data)

You can find the full project planning, data, feedback portal and maps here: [nycdotprojects.info/content/overview](http://nycdotprojects.info/content/overview), but here are some facts:

- ★ In 2015, they installed nine pedestrian islands, which decreased the number of pedestrian injuries at those intersections by 51%.
- ★ 55% of those injured were the result of driver failure to yield.
- ★ 2015–2017: Banned left turns at 75th St., 78th St., 96th St. and 102nd St.
- ★ 2015–2018: Installed high-visibility crosswalks and refurbished markings between 68th St. and 114th St.



★ In 2018, NYC DOT installed left turn traffic calming at 70th St., 72nd St., 82nd St., 85th St., 86th St. and 90th St. to slow left-turning vehicles and reduce conflicts between motor vehicles and pedestrians.

★ Beginning in 2019, NYC DOT plans to install 10 pedestrian refuge islands on Northern Blvd between 70th St. and 92nd St.

This is a start that will increase the safety of our seniors, children and vulnerable road users. In the future, we hope that congestion pricing will provide more space for a Select Bus route for the Q66, which has 13,000 daily users. An efficient bus route could also help reduce car traffic. We also hope to see more loading zones implemented.

Our group has benefitted from the full support of Council Member Dromm and Senator Ramos, who have always sought out resources and guidance from the Department of Transportation. We encourage you to contact them as well as Assemblyman DenDekker, Assemblywoman Cruz and Councilmember Francisco Moya too. Community Board 3 can also intervene and make traffic safety calls on your behalf. Of course, 311 and NYPD 115th Precinct should always be notified of dangerous road use issues.

Follow Make Queens Safer at [makequeenssafer.org](http://makequeenssafer.org) and on Twitter and Facebook to learn more or participate in some of our family bike rides and other actions.

*Cristina Furlong spent the last 10 years as a bike tour guide in New York City. She holds a Masters Degree in social journalism from the CUNY Newmark School of Journalism. She's lived in Queens 19 years and biked NYC for thirty.*

# Summer Fun at the JH Crew Dog Run

BY JERRY GOLDMAN

It's been another great summer at our JHBG-supported dog run!

Membership continues to grow as neighbors new and old discover this friendly community meeting place for our canine friends..

In July we had our annual clean-up event with volunteers sprucing up the park; pulling weeds, disposing trash, raking and redistributing the pea gravel ground cover (a huge job!). The park was also the stage this year for a couple of doggie birthday celebrations with cake and treats for all.

The JH Crew dog run is located at the northwest corner of 69th Street and 35th Avenue. Membership is free and open to all, though we do encourage a nominal donation upon joining up to help with our expenses. Applications can be downloaded on the JHBG web site at [www.jhbg.org/programs/jh-crew](http://www.jhbg.org/programs/jh-crew)

See you there!

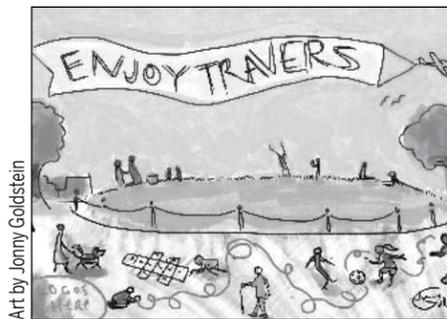


# Weekday Summer Fun at the New Travers Park

BY MELISSA ZAVALA

Though Travers Park is still under construction, the newly refurbished area along what used to be the 78th Street Play Street has provided a perfect location for neighborhood families to congregate and participate in enjoyable community activities.

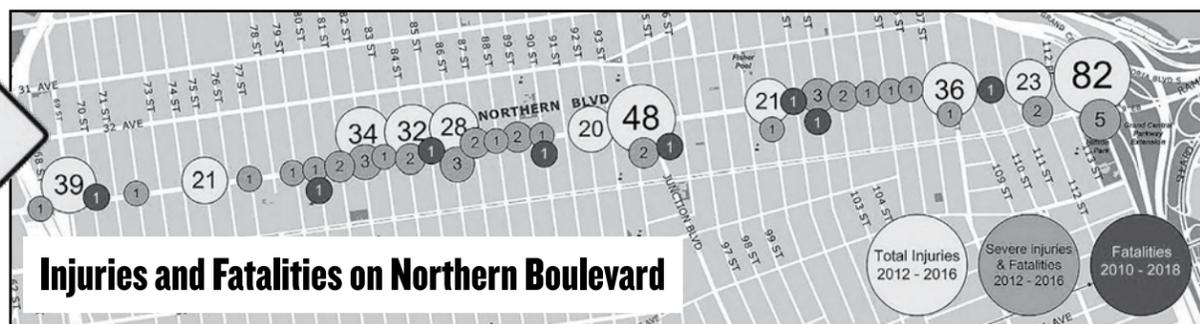
While our park upgrade includes multiple wonderful features like a new playground, chess tables, and a rolling hill, the amphitheater-styled space along the new promenade made for a welcome location for celebrating summer recess. Bordered by a small cluster of tables, this area offers enough versatility for a variety of activities which Jackson Heights residents were able to enjoy, even as we await the newly renovated toddler playground and basketball court. With the support of our State Assemblywoman Jessica Ramos, the Jackson Heights Beautification Group (JHBG) and Friends of Travers Park, co-sponsored two free



weekly events running from July to August on Wednesday mornings and Thursday evenings, each with a special focus: to provide community-building activities to residents over the summer. Activities geared for children were scheduled every Wednesday morning, including Breakdancing and Bollywood instruction, a magic show by Joe the Magician, free face-painting and balloon art by local neighborhood gardeners and mother-daughter duo, as well as

environmental art by the Bee Guy, and more! More adult-centric events took place on Thursday evenings, some encouraging movement and fitness like Salsa dancing, while others inspired more reflection, like watercolors at dusk.

Following the conclusion of the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation "Movies Under the Stars" series—also held along 78th Street—these programs proved to be a much welcome addition to the lively calendar of events held around the neighborhood, from those hosted at Diversity Plaza, to others offered throughout our neighborhood's playgrounds and parks. JHBG plans on making summer programming a permanent feature in the neighborhood, complimenting Summer Sundays in the Park and live concerts by the Jackson Heights Orchestra. We hope to see you again next summer and a hearty thank-you to everyone who supported this summer's events!



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# Jackson Heights Immigrant Solidarity Network



**T**he Jackson Heights Immigrant Solidarity Network (JHISN) supports our immigrant neighbors and their families, including those who are persecuted, by mobilizing against racism, scapegoating, and xenophobia. *We believe no human being is illegal.*

Via policy and rhetoric, Trump intensified attacks on immigrants this summer, influencing: the shooting of 46 people in El Paso, TX, 22 of whom were killed; directing an ICE raid on a Mississippi poultry processing plant leading to the arrest of nearly 700 documented and undocumented workers; and barring asylum to anyone who passes through another country before arriving in the U.S. The war on migrants fleeing violence and economic upheaval caused by climate change and decades of U.S. intervention in the northern triangle of Central America has been escalated to the beat of a white nationalist refrain, threatening non-white and Latinx people regardless of immigration status. But migration is an age-old practice and the right of asylum is protected by federal and international law. It is not a criminal offense to seek asylum.

One more slap in the face of decency is the "public charge" ruling, which threatens immigrants in need of Medicaid, housing vouchers, or food stamps with loss of visa or green card applications. Cross out "give me your tired, your poor" in Emma Lazarus's poem on the Statue of Liberty for "well-heeled." And "your huddled masses yearning to be free" – change that to "lily-whites."

We are an action organization. Join with us to win citizenship for neighbors Alfredo Flores and Ferdoushi Sharif (sign their



petitions on our website). Demonstrate with us and other human rights and immigrant groups protesting inhumane conditions of the concentration camps migrants are detained in at the border. Help disseminate information and organize public meetings that counter the racist anti-immigrant rhetoric of the Trump administration. Work with us to find houses of worship that will grant sanctuary in Queens to those hunted by ICE. Go to our website, [Jhimmigrantsolidarity.org](http://Jhimmigrantsolidarity.org), and sign the mailing list to be informed of our regular meetings, open to all who want justice for those seeking the right to immigrate. Our weekly newsletter provides a summary of the latest news and events and ways you can get involved. Help join with and mobilize our gorgeously diverse community so that all feel safe and secure here in Jackson Heights.

—Barbara Mutnick (for JHISN)

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS: FALL 2019

For up-to-date information on JHBG events, visit our website at [www.jhbg.org](http://www.jhbg.org).

### ONGOING EVENTS

**Saturdays 11am-1 pm**  
**JH-SCRAPS (composting)**  
69th St. & 35th Ave.  
For info on what is compostable, contact [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org)

**Most Saturdays 10 am**  
**Tree LC**

Meets at the NE corner of 80th St. & 37th Ave. Schedule may vary and include some Sundays. Check the **JHBG Facebook page** for complete information.

**Saturdays 10 am Clean and Green**  
(Through Thanksgiving)  
See next page for dates and locations. For complete details, go to [www.jhbg.org](http://www.jhbg.org)

**Daily JH-CREW dog run**  
69th St. between 34th & 35th Aves. To join, go to [www.jhbg.org](http://www.jhbg.org) for application. Suggested donation, \$25/year.

### Santa Ride



On Sunday, December 1, at 9:30 am, JHBG is proud to co-sponsor the fourth annual Ciclistas Latinoamericano de New York Santa Claus bike ride.

Cyclists of all ages will be meeting at Travers Park at 9:30 am to ride along with Santa Claus around the neighborhood. Riders are encouraged to dress up as elves and to decorate their bikes and helmets.

	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>OCTOBER</b>							26
				<b>SATURDAY, OCT. 26 Dia de los Muertos at Leverich Cemetery 10am to 1 pm</b> After removing some dangerous trees, JHBG has partnered with volunteer, Meria Bergeron, to build a formal three-season garden at the Leverich Cemetery. This Saturday from 10am to 1pm we will be painting a garden wall, turning the compost pile and planting some shrubs. After we get the garden ready for winter, we will be setting up a shrine for our ancestors were people can offer gifts to their deceased loved ones in a Dia de los Muertos ritual. Everyone is welcome.			
27		28	29	<b>30 Annual Packing of the Bags 5 pm</b> The night prior to our 29th Annual Halloween Parade, volunteers will meet at P.S. 69 at 5 pm to pack the 3,200 goodie bags that are handed out to children who march in the parade. We will also be working on building flying puppets to use to mark each school as they march down 37th Ave.	<b>THURSDAY, OCT. 31 29th Annual Halloween Parade 5 pm</b> The annual JHBG Halloween parade will step off at exactly 5pm Line up on 89th St. and 37th Ave. and march down to 76th St. where the goodie bags are handed out to the first 3,200 kids.	<b>NOVEMBER 1</b>	<b>2 Gardening on Ditmars Blvd</b> 10am to 1 pm JHBG will join the new Astoria Community Greening Group as they follow in JHBG's footsteps in developing a neighborhood group to clean and green Astoria.
3		4	<b>5 Election Day</b>	6	7	8	<b>9 Gardening at I.S. 145</b> 10 am to 1 pm JHBG volunteers will be working on the garden around the school as well as the 34th Ave. median.
10		<b>11 Veterans Day</b>	<b>12 CEC Meeting at P.S. 2 6:30 pm</b> The Community Education Council will be at P.S. 2 which is located at 75th St. and 21st Ave. to discuss issues with our local public schools.	13	14	15	<b>16 Gardening on Northern Blvd. &amp; BQE</b> 10 am to 1 pm JHBG volunteers will be planting tulip bulbs near the BQE on Northern Blvd. So we will have tulips in the spring and sunflowers in late August.
17		18	19	20	21	22	<b>23 Leaf raking on 69th St.</b> 10 am to 1 pm JHBG ends the season with the great leaf pick up along 69th St. Volunteers meet at 35th Ave. and 69th St. We start back up on the first Saturday in April with a planning breakfast.
24	<b>1 Santa Bike Ride</b> 9:30 am	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving	29	30
<b>DECEMBER</b>							
8		<b>9 JHBG Holiday Fundraiser 7 pm</b> Members, neighbors and supporters come together for an evening for food, fun, and music to celebrate JHBG and raise money for all the work done in the neighborhood. Queensboro restaurant	10	<b>11 Jackson Heights Orchestra</b> 7:30pm First concert of the season at St. Mark's Church.	12	13	<b>14 JHBG Holiday Lighting at Post Office</b> 4:00 pm Join your neighbors in singing Carols and drinking hot chocolate
15		16	17	18	19	20	21
22		23	24	<b>25 Christmas</b>	26	27	28
	29	30	<b>31 New Year's Eve</b>	<b>HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!</b>			

**Holiday Tree Lighting** Mark your calendars for Saturday, December 14th, when we will have the Jackson Heights Beautification Group's annual Holiday Tree Lighting event. The fun will begin at 4:00 pm with some entertaining activities for children, including hot chocolate to keep our spirits warm. Then at 5:00 pm, we will all herald in the tree lighting with some enthusiastic carolling. This event is organized by a dedicated group of volunteers, including Tammy Rose, Karen Wellington, Maria Bonilla, Barbra Lombardo, and Eirik Gislason, coordinated by our own JHBG Board member Rhoda Dunn.



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Beautification Group, Ltd.**  
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**VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS – Fall 2019**

## Jackson Heights Greenmarket

BY LOUISE MULVIHILL



**Our neighborhood has an amazing attribute** besides our great diversity and welcoming attitude. It is our 20-year-old, year-round Greenmarket. It is located on 79th St. between Northern Blvd. and 34th Avenue. There you will find fresh seasonal items, baked goods, cheese and dairy products, eggs, fish, meat, herbs, and even a composting stand. Under the management of GrowNYC, this Greenmarket has grown from being only during the summer and fall taking up about half a block, to year round weekly must shop filling its whole designated length of 79th St. and wrapping around 34th Ave. to 78th St.

It is here you will find organic fruits, herbs, vegetables, and even wine, along with artisanal cheese, bread, and pâté.

With Thanksgiving coming up, it is the ideal place to get your favorite items for that very best of family dinners!

Any time of year, it is a "must go to" on a Sunday if only to feast on the sounds and smells, and meet your neighbors in such convivial surroundings.

### *Friends & Neighbors:*

*Please join us or renew your membership*

*(there are 2 ways):*

Go to **www.JHBG.org/donate** and pay by credit card.  
It's quick and easy! Mail a check with this form  
for the membership level you select to:

**JHBG–Membership • P.O. Box 720253  
Jackson Heights, NY 11372**

Membership includes a subscription to *Views from the Heights* and helps fund our numerous community activities. JHBG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so your contribution is tax deductible.

#### **Please check membership level:**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$100    | <input type="checkbox"/> Sponsor \$1,000  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Patron \$250    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____      |

#### **Please print the following:**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address (Include apt. #):** \_\_\_\_\_

**City/State/Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail address:** \_\_\_\_\_

If you're interested in being contacted about any JHBG activities, please email **info@JHBG.org**.