



# VIEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS

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Jackson Heights  
Beautification Group

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

Jackson Heights – “A Garden in the City”

## Calling All Tree Gardeners!

BY LEN MANIACE

**T**ree LC—JHBG’s greening program along 37th Avenue—is back this spring with even more ambitious plans. On Saturday, April 6, we began cleaning and planting more than 60 Curbside Street Tree Gardens on the avenue (and a few on 75th Street). To participate, see below.

This work comes after a hugely successful 2018. Let’s recap.

A complete overhaul of the Jackson Heights Post Office garden topped our list of achievements. Our volunteers reached out and successfully encouraged merchants to

improve our curbside gardens. Also, between JHBG and New York City Parks, more than a dozen sturdy, ornamental iron fences were installed around street trees, creating space for new curbside gardens.

In November our volunteers finished off the Post Office work when they planted 50 spring-blooming giant allium bulbs, a flowering onion whose blooms resemble gorgeous fireworks. Last spring contractors hired by JHBG planted 111 perennials (for non-gardeners, they come back every year, as will the alliums, by the way). This

*(continued on page 3)*



## JHBG’s First Family Scavenger Hunt

BY NUALA O’DOHERTY

**D**o you know where to find Wink, the penguin? What is the mascot of IS 145? Do you know about the yellow butterflies in the cemetery? On Saturday, April 20th at noon, JHBG will host its first ever JH Family Scavenger Hunt. The theme is

animals around Jackson Heights. The event will start at 11:45 a.m. with the distribution of a book of 10 animal clues, and at noon families will spread out from Diversity Plaza (73rd Street and Broadway) and search for 10 animals around Jackson Heights. A JHBG volunteer at each of 10 locations will stamp players’ books, proving that families found that location’s animal. Each family that returns to Diversity Plaza by 2 p.m. with nine stamps will receive a prize,

and the first three groups back will receive an award.

The hunt will be part of a larger family day at Diversity Plaza that JHBG is holding with Friends of Diversity Plaza. In the morning, JHBG volunteers will be cleaning and greening the streets around the Plaza. There will also be live music, as well as an art exhibit. The opening of Diversity Plaza allows for a space where the community can come together. If you have ideas for events or programming at Diversity Plaza, e-mail [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org).

For those interested in more scavenger hunts, Jackson Heights has Geocaching. In this game, players track down a treasure based on GPS coordinates. Jackson Heights has around 10 Geocaching spots; for more information, go to [www.Geocaching.com](http://www.Geocaching.com).





JHBG Volunteer Rafael Rodriguez

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## Student Spring Art Competition!

Students in kindergarten to 8th grade are encouraged to compete in JHBG's Annual Spring Art competition. Applications have been submitted to all our local schools, so ask your art teacher or check out our website at [www.JHBG.org](http://www.JHBG.org). This year's theme is Jackson Heights: A Garden in the City. **Drawings must be submitted by 3:30 p.m. on Thursday, May 16.** Winners will have their artwork displayed in the windows of Jackson Heights businesses and will be invited to an Awards Ceremony at Community Church on Thursday, June 6th at 7 p.m.

# From the Editor

Dear Reader,

We hope you'll enjoy this issue of the *Views*. A warm welcome to any newcomers to Jackson Heights—several stories may help you sample the richness of the neighborhood. The streets of Jackson Heights are bustling with life this spring, and the newsletter features new and ongoing developments that reflect the vibrant thinking, vision, and industry of our community. Many, many people contributed to this issue, hoping to capture a bit of our shared experiences. Visitors often remark that there is something for everyone in zip code 11372; we hope readers of these pages will agree. While we awake to budding flowers and greenery in the coming weeks, let's keep our eyes open for new friendships along the way. Here's a poetry fragment to muse on this month:

from *Early Spring*, by Rainer Maria Rilke

*Harshness vanished. A sudden softness  
Has replaced the meadows' wintry grey.*



Thank you on behalf of the *Views* team,

Barbara Miller

## Reimagining the Internet through Neighborhood Eyes

BY THOMAS LOWENHAUPT

**A**wesome in its capabilities. Astounding in its impact. But untrustworthy and annoying as hell. That's today's internet. We all sense that the awesome and astounding internet should be capable of addressing our neighborhood's short- and long-term needs. But its impact to date has been minimal. While we've had JacksonHeightsLife.com, Facebook, Nextdoor, and a slew of other offerings providing piecemeal services, until recently we've not had a neighborhood-controlled platform capable of serving the broad scope of needs of our residents and organizations. We're developing [JacksonHeights.nyc](http://JacksonHeights.nyc) to do that, to connect and support all existing neighborhood organizations, and, with thoughtful local input, to address a key problem with today's internet—trust.

Two years ago, I led an effort to acquire a city license to operate an organizing platform—[JacksonHeights.nyc](http://JacksonHeights.nyc)—as an organizing platform for our neighborhood's long-term digital needs. Our first initiative created a Wikipedia-like site to serve as a directory of our civic and business resources (a modern-day yellow pages), and as a historic archive or long-term memory. Known

as a wiki, this type of site allows visitors to add or edit content. There, neighborhood organizations can detail their services and provide links to their own websites—as does JHBG. And if they don't have one, they can create one on the wiki.

The future promises other features such as a common neighborhood calendar, and, aspirationally, an "idea-appraisal tool" that will enable residents to share ideas and voice their opinions on proposals. This tool will provide organizing features to assist them with follow-up on desirable projects.

This is a volunteer-led effort that succeeds only with the participation of Jackson Heights's residents. We need residents old and young to share what they know about the neighborhood on the wiki, moderators to ensure that these postings match neighborhood standards, and technical types to keep the machinery running. And importantly, we need governors to steer our innovative venture in the right direction.

In November we had our first governors meeting at the Renaissance Charter School. Another took place in March. Fingertip over to [JacksonHeights.nyc](http://JacksonHeights.nyc) to get involved or email to [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org).

**En Español - páginas 8-9**

# President's Message

BY NUALA O'DOHERTY

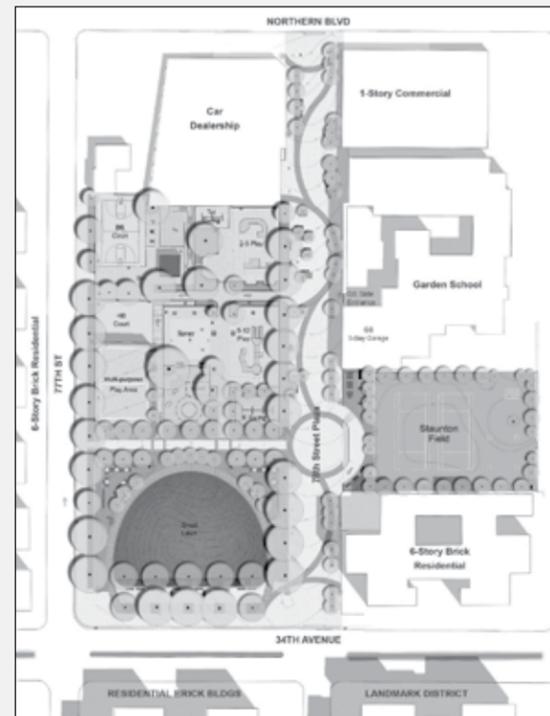
**J**ackson Heights is known as a garden community with tree-lined streets, six-story brick buildings, and two-family homes. Recent construction of larger buildings has raised concerns, highlighting our need to protect and utilize our few remaining open spaces.

Over the last 10 years, JHBG has developed 19 different garden spaces around Jackson Heights that showcase the small green spaces our community enjoys, but when spaces are larger and can be developed, the fight to preserve them becomes more difficult.

The small two-family frame houses along 71st Street by the BQE are now next to a behemoth 14-story apartment building, nearly complete. Two separate two-family houses on 89th Street were purchased and demolished where construction has begun on a nine-story building. Both new buildings are out of character for the surrounding neighborhood. Another eight-story structure is planned for 75th Street on the south side of Northern Boulevard, and a seven-story building on 77th Street and Roosevelt Avenue is under construction.

Jackson Heights is a strong community. When we've banded together, we've been successful in stopping developers. Due to the boisterous concerns of many neighbors, the plans for an apartment tower above a new Target store on 82nd Street south of Roosevelt Avenue (where the movie theater had been) were stopped—the developer scaled back construction to a three-story commercial space.

There are, however, other concerns. There is talk of selling



Schematic plan for an expanded Travers Park, first envisioned by our community many years ago

Travers Park, and the Rory Staunton Field we have obtained the larger park envisioned by the community 10 years ago.

But the fight continues. The Department of Transportation, which runs the 78th Street Plaza, wants to modify mid-construction the Parks Department's design that was promised to the community years ago, by allowing a driveway for a car dealership to enter the new park. In true Jackson Heights spirit, families have protested noisily, demanding every inch of park they were promised. JHBG will continue to clean and green the open spaces we have, but as a community, we must stay informed and be ready to fight to keep our precious open spaces.

**"Jackson Heights has shown that we can come together to preserve our precious community spaces and we must continue to fight for them."**

## Tree LC (continued from page 1)

project began in the fall of 2017, with the planting of two dozen shrubs, most of them evergreen. Two of them, on either side of the Post Office entrance, serve as Christmas trees for our holiday lighting of the building, which also features a Menorah.

JHBG installed three new tree guards around recently planted trees at the Arepa

Lady, Original American Chicken, and the Downtown Natural Market. Meanwhile New York City Parks installed five tree guards in front of the rebuilt Bruson Building on 37th Avenue and five more on 75th Street, which Tree LC is already greening.

That big expansion means we will need even more volunteers to help us turn those tree pits into curbside gardens.

As mentioned earlier, a big thank you goes to those 37th Avenue merchants who are watering, cleaning, and planting adjacent curbside gardens. A special thank you goes out to Frank's Pharmacy, Crafts and Decor, Table Wine, and La Boina Roja for their extra effort. We expect a longer list next year.

So here's the deal for the coming year: We will be out

working most weekends, usually Saturdays, but occasionally Sundays. We meet at 80th Street and 37th Avenue at 10 a.m. and then set out to our work locations. For information or to join, send an email to [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org), with 'Tree Gardens' in subject line, please. We will keep you informed about our outings. We also post them on JHBG's Facebook page.

# A Team Effort for Verdant Median on 34th Avenue

BY EVIE MCKENNA

JHBG has been actively working in the past year with NYC Parks on our longest stripe of green in Jackson Heights. Thirty-Fourth Avenue has a lovely greenway planted in its middle that adds a verdant accent to the neighborhood. As a midway point, the median offers a resting area for people to stop on their way across the wide avenue. This design has been adopted more recently along parts of Northern Boulevard for safety as well as beauty. You might expect that for these reasons, the median would be well maintained by NYC Parks. But although it was healthy and green, some spots had been neglected and trampled by pedestrians. And its condition was unfortunately under the radar of that department because responsibility for its care actually falls under a special Parks group, called “Greenstreets” (a partnership that began in 1996 between NYC Parks

and the NYC Department of Transportation). Their gardeners have a smaller staff and limited resources to maintain many of the city’s small, unusual spaces; but we asked if they could do more here on our median, and they did listen. We found an openness on their part to hearing our concerns when we met with a number of Greenstreets staffers last year.

A plan was put in place to work on a few blocks—79th to 82nd Streets—that were gardened by local volunteers to show our good intentions. We were able to enhance a number of blocks by adding new shrubs, trimmed plants and trees, daffodil bulbs from NYers for Parks, and assorted other plants twice this past year. Volunteers from JHBG, IS145, IS230, the Garden School, the Towers, and St. Mark’s Church carried out the renewal planting, using materials from the Parks Department and tools from JHBG. Officers from the 115th



Come out and join us on April 13 to clean and green the median at 79th Street.

Precinct helped ensure safety on the busy avenue.

This year we are looking to continue improving the median, block by block, till all of its twenty-six blocks are upgraded as needed. We should see a big improvement in the look of the entire median later this spring with beautiful, healthy plantings.

We appreciate the partnership we have been able to forge with NYC Parks, and additional thanks go to Councilman Dromm’s office, which played an instrumental role in getting these plans in motion and in supporting JHBG. Look for our volunteer calls in the spring if you want to get involved as we can always use your help!

## Travers Park Updates

BY LESLIE ELLMAN



The neighborhood is abuzz with the partial re-opening of Travers Park. Park-goers can once again enter the park from 34th Avenue, and when they do, they can enjoy a walk on the newly constructed paths that surround our great lawn.

The handball courts are open, as is the play area for 5–12-year-olds. New swings have been installed, as well as new play equipment for climbing and spinning. Construction on the “tot lot” for our youngest park enthusiasts is anticipated to start between mid-May and early summer (the exact date to be determined). The tot lot will include redesigned play areas, sitting areas, and new plantings.

The capital construction for Staunton Field and the grand opening of our new lawn are scheduled for completion by September 2019.

Even throughout this major construction project, the park continues to be heavily utilized, underscoring the vital role that Travers Park plays in our lives.

# Neighborhood Guide: Live Music

BY VICTORIA STEINBERG

As fans of JHBG’s Summer Sundays in the Park know, this is a neighborhood that appreciates music. It’s no wonder then that we boast a number of venues featuring free or low-cost performances all year, virtually every day of the week — and, this being Jackson Heights, that the choices span a variety of genres and, of course, national origins, with something to please just about any taste. Here’s a sampling:

### D’ANTIGUA

Dedicated to “bringing the best of Latin American culture” to the neighborhood, this bustling restaurant and lounge offers live music every Friday. While the cuisine is Colombian, the tunes encompass a wider area, with Argentine and Mexican groups included in a roster that includes Latin American rock and salsa. Performance times vary, with some sets starting at 9 p.m., and others kicking off as late as 10 or 11 and going until midnight. Most are free, and early shows can be accompanied by dinner, with the bar open until 4 a.m. For information, go to D’Antigua on Facebook or Instagram. 84-16 Northern Boulevard, 718-779-0128.

### ESPRESSO 77

Every Thursday, Friday, and Saturday night at 9 p.m., this popular restaurant and gallery adds to its menu of light meals, wine, beer, and, of course, coffee, by showcasing local artists and bands in a relaxed and intimate setting. The selection, designed to reflect the neighborhood, is unlimited, but has included jazz, blues, pop, folk, and rock. And all performances are free of charge. For information, go to espresso77.com or visit the Espresso 77 Facebook page. 35-57 77th Street, 718-424-1077, espresso77.com.

### HIMALAYAN YAK

Every Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, this lively Himalayan spot showcases a vibrant and tuneful musical tradition. Beginning at around 9 p.m. and



From top: Terraza 7 Jazz Jam., The Queensboro, Marilyn Castillo at Espresso 77, Himalayan Yak House Band.



going until 11 or 1, artists, including the restaurant’s house band, offer popular, rock and traditional tunes, free of charge. Most selections are from Nepal, with some Tibetan numbers included as the perfect accompaniment to an extensive Nepali, Tibetan, and Indian menu. For information, go to yakrestaurant.com or visit Himalayan Yak on Facebook. 72-20 Roosevelt Avenue, 718-779-1119, yakrestaurant.com.

### QUEENS LIBRARY, JACKSON HEIGHTS

With programs designed for the whole family, the Queens Library presents a world of music free of charge. Most events are scheduled on Saturday afternoons from noon or 1 p.m. until 3, drawing crowds from 50 to 120. Recent offerings have included Brazilian, Indian, Bengali, tango, and salsa artists, with the most popular artists generally invited back. For information, pick up a monthly schedule

at the library or go to queenslibrary.org. And don’t forget to check out the offerings at other branches, including Corona, Elmhurst, East Elmhurst (Langston Hughes), Lefrak City, Sunnyside, and Woodside. 35-51 81st Street, 718-899-2500, queenslibrary.org.

### THE QUEENSBORO

Since last July, just a month after opening, this American bistro has been presenting a varied sampling of music on Thursday or Friday evenings from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m. Offerings have included jazz, blues, salsa, Latin jazz, and Irish rock, all presented free of charge. Guests can also round out their evenings by ordering from the full dinner menu or enjoying drinks at the bar. Updated information on performances is sent to subscribers to the restaurant’s email list (go to thequeensboro.com to sign up) and is available on the website, as well as Facebook and Twitter. 80-02 Northern Boulevard, 929-296-0038, thequeensboro.com.

### TERRAZA 7

Six nights a week, starting from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m., and sometimes going on until 2 a.m., this colorful performance space and bar is dedicated to “showcasing the whole spectrum of immigrant culture” musically — leading to a jam-packed and varied schedule. Sundays and Wednesdays are devoted to jazz; Tuesdays to salsa and Latin jazz; Thursdays are highlighted by the 18-member Terraza 7 Big Band but also feature smaller jazz groups, Galician accordion music, and Afro-Peruvian sounds; Fridays might bring Afro-Colombian tunes or Puerto Rican bomba and plena or Ecuadorian music or, to leap continents, Moroccan melodies. Saturdays are devoted to a rotating menu of Indian music, Spanish flamenco, Afro-Colombian cumbia, and Afro-Venezuelan or Afro-Honduran sounds. There are also regular poetry and theatrical events, plus karaoke, on Mondays. Cover prices range from \$7 to \$15, with children under 12 admitted free. For information, go to terraza7.com. 40-19 Gleane Street, Elmhurst, 347-808-0518.



# A YEAR OF EATING

## Options Expand in a Foodie Mecca

BY VICTORIA STEINBERG

**T**ell anyone you're from Jackson Heights and you'll immediately hear about our restaurants. People will go on and on about how amazing the food is and exclaim about how lucky you are. Well, it is amazing, and yes, we are lucky indeed. And, with nearly 20 new eateries opening in roughly the past year, a pace of almost two a month—representing four continents, some in fascinating fusion combination—our good fortune seems bound to continue.

The following is a rundown of our past year in food, more or less chronologically, with the caveat that we may have missed a few. In the ever-changing, multicultural whirl that makes Jackson Heights so special, chefs from around the world are eager to live out their dreams by sharing their delectable cultures with their neighbors. We urge you to dig in.

### JACKSON GYRO

Operated by the owners of the bagel shop formerly at the site, this bright and airy diner opened last spring determined to reverse the usual diner equation by placing native cuisine front and center in a varied all-day menu starring Greek street food. In addition to an extensive grill selection, choices include a large roster of Greek appetizers and dips, soups and desserts, all prepared on site. For the less adventurous, there are also sandwiches, burgers, salads and breakfast platters—and, for faithful old customers, bagels. (85-30 37th Avenue, Daily 6 a.m.–midnight, free delivery—718-433-9408, [jacksongyro.com](http://jacksongyro.com))

### RIKO PERUVIAN CUISINE

Rotisserie chicken is the centerpiece of this fifth entry in a mini-chain with outposts in Manhattan, Jamaica, and Sunnyside, but there's also a full menu of Peruvian delights, from a ceviche bar to appetizers, soups, salads, meat, poultry, and seafood entrees, and desserts. Since its March 2018 debut, the restaurant has also offered

special family combo meals built around whole chickens. (78-14 Roosevelt Avenue, Sunday-Thursday, 11 a.m.–11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.–midnight, free delivery—929-296-0370, [rikoperuviancuisine.com](http://rikoperuviancuisine.com))

### LALY'S

Offering both Mexican temptations and all-American standbys, Laly's kicked off the summer in July with a menu ranging from chimichangas to grilled salmon—with stops in between for salads, tacos, burgers and breakfast favorites from both cuisines. There are also daily Mexican specials, a kids menu, and a happy hour every day starting at 3 p.m. (75-19 Roosevelt Avenue, Sunday-Thursday, 8 a.m.–10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 8 a.m.–11 p.m., free delivery—718-433-9906)

### MAMA ROSA BRICK OVEN PIZZERIA RESTAURANT

This bright and friendly spot debuted in July with almost 40 different types of

pizza, most available in personal, medium or large sizes, with many on hand to order by the slice. Joining the usual extras of calzones, filled rolls, and hero sandwiches, however, is a full menu of appetizers, salads, pastas and dinner entrees to eat at rustic wooden tables. (77-09 37th Avenue, Monday-Saturday, 11 a.m.–10 p.m., Sunday, 11 a.m.–9 p.m., free delivery and curbside pickup—347-649-1862)

### TIBETAN JAPANESE RESTAURANT

It's definitely a Jackson Heights story: two friends, one Tibetan, the other a Japanese master sushi chef, decide to open a restaurant, and rather than choose between their two favored cuisines, they opt for both. The result is this tranquil August entry, offering a full sushi and sashimi menu, as well as Tibetan and Japanese entrees, Japanese soups, salads and noodle dishes, bento boxes for lunch and dinner, and appetizers from both countries. (75-26 37th Avenue, Sunday, Monday and Wednesday, 11 a.m.–10:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.–11 p.m., closed Tuesday—718-440-9359)

### TIA JULIA

The brick-and-mortar outgrowth of a popular food truck (still in operation in the area), this expanded Mexican spot opened in September with a full menu from breakfast to dinner. Included are fan-favorite tacos, chilaquiles, tortas, burritos, cemitas, tostadas, quesadillas and enchiladas, along with soups, platters, desserts, and an array of daily specials. A kids' menu is also available. (40-08 Case Street, Elmhurst, Friday-Wednesday, 7 a.m.–10 p.m., closed Thursday, free delivery—929-424-3220)

### WING'S MILLER

Offering nine different flavors of chicken wings, with an array of sauces from mild to extra hot, this inventive independent opened in September providing 6-, 10-, and 20-piece servings perfect for an individual meal or a party. Also available are boneless wings, chicken nuggets and cutlets, sandwiches, fish, calamari, shrimp and salad, as well as a kids' menu. Combo meals include main dishes, a choice of nine sides and a drink. (85-17 37th Avenue, Sunday-Thursday, 11:30 a.m.–10 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11:30 a.m.–11:30 p.m.—718-779-8866)

### PARIS BAGUETTE

This Asian-French light meal spot bowed in October as the latest outpost of a worldwide, Korea-based chain. Choices include pastries, sandwiches, salads, and, of course, bread—many with an intriguing fusion edge. (88-16 Northern Boulevard, Daily 6 a.m.–10 p.m.—718-458-0260)

### KHAMPA KITCHEN INN

Providing a tranquil take on Tibetan comfort food, this October entry offers momos, soups, salads, noodle dishes, omelets, and entrees, including vegetarian options. Fresh juices are available in the morning at a front counter. (75-15 Roosevelt Avenue, Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.–10:30 p.m., Friday-Sunday, 10 a.m.–11 p.m., juice bar: 7 a.m.–9 a.m., 718-898-1790)

### AREPA LADY

After months of deprivation as this neighborhood favorite moved into its new site, Arepa Lady fans could finally rejoice as this Colombian spot reopened in October. An underground sensation for decades as a food cart, and for four years at its old location, the restaurant will continue to offer its four types of arepas with a variety of fillings, along with patacones and appetizers, but, with twice the seating as the old place, plans for an expanded menu are in the works. (77-17 37th Avenue, Monday-Thursday, 11 a.m.–11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.–midnight, Sunday, noon–10 p.m., 917-745-1111)

### LA EXQUISITA

In a record turnaround, the owners of the shuttered El Rico Tinto reopened in less than two weeks this past October, bringing the same staff and menu to a smaller spot just over the Elmhurst border. Featured, as before, are full meals from breakfast through dinner, along with tacos, tortas, quesadillas, flautas, burritos, nachos, cemitas, enchiladas and fajitas, plus salads and burgers. Also included are vegetarian options and an array of baked goods. (40-08 Hampton Street, Elmhurst, Monday-Saturday, 6 a.m.–9 p.m., Sunday, 6 a.m.–8 p.m., free delivery—347-935-3842)

### LHASA FRESH FOOD

With diners braving long waits to squeeze into the tiny Lhasa Fast Food, tucked behind a cellphone store on 74th Street,

the owners opened a second, larger location in October. The expanded Tibetan menu ranges from momos and noodle dishes to several types of the meat, noodle and soup dishes, and a variety of fried meats. Vegetarian options, including stir fries, are also available. (81-09 41st Avenue, Elmhurst, Daily, 11 a.m.–9:30 p.m., free delivery—917-745-0364)

### BISTRO ELOISE

Widening neighborhood dining options with classic French bistro fare, enlivened by modern twists, this charming spot, owned by a Jackson Heights resident, opened in October. Lunch and weekend brunch menus feature crepes, eggs, salads, and sandwiches, while dinners include such favorites as coq au vin, boeuf bourguignon, cassoulet, moules marinières, escargots, and canard l'orange. Available all day are crocks of onion soup gratinee and "le baguez," a Gallic take on the hot dog with Moroccan sausage and harissa mayo on a baguette. (75-57 31st Avenue, East Elmhurst, in the Jackson Heights Shopping Center), Tuesday-Thursday, 12 noon–10 p.m., Friday, 12 noon–11 p.m., Saturday, 10 a.m.–11 p.m., Sunday, 10 a.m.–10 p.m., Brunch—Saturday, 10 a.m.–4 p.m. and Sunday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m., Lunch—Tuesday-Friday, noon–4 p.m., closed Monday—718-440-9493, [bistroeloise.com](http://bistroeloise.com))

### ROMEO'S

Offering fine Italian dining from antipasti to dolci, with pasta, risotto, veal, chicken, meat, and seafood dishes, plus soup and salad in between, this full-service restaurant brought formal dining back to 37th Avenue with its November opening. Three-course lunch specials are available daily. (74-27 37th Avenue, Sunday-Thursday, noon–11 p.m., Friday and Saturday, noon–midnight—718-458-2174, [romeositalianrestaurant.com](http://romeositalianrestaurant.com))

### PAPA'S KITCHEN

Moving from Philippine-restaurant-packed Woodside to add new flavors to the neighborhood mix, this traditional Filipino spot opened in November offering such delicacies as balut (fertilized duck egg) and sisig (grilled pork ears) as well as a full menu of entrees. Dining parties offering a week's notice can also enjoy salusalo sa bilao, a multi-course poultry, seafood and

(continued on page 15)

## IS 145 Ofrece Programa de Apoyo en Asuntos de Inmigración a Padres de Familia

BY MARTHA SANCHEZ

Con el cambio de dirección en la política de inmigración de Washington D.C. muchas familias de la comunidad viven con un temor creciente a la deportación. Aunque la ciudad de Nueva York es una ciudad Santuario, muchas familias necesitan información clara y asesoría sobre las distintas opciones para regularizar su situación migratoria. Cada familia tiene una circunstancia única, por lo que la mejor política es tener una consulta individual con un abogado de inmigración entrenado, para que las familias conozcan sus derechos.

Nuestra escuela secundaria, la IS 145, tiene más de 1400 estudiantes, de los cuales 88 % son latinos. La presidenta de la PTA, Martha Sánchez, ha trabajado para encontrar la mejor manera de apoyar a las familias de estos jóvenes. En asociación con la Coalición de Inmigración de Nueva York (NYIC, por sus siglas en inglés), la PTA creó un programa mensual en el que un abogado capacitado, de habla hispana, y tres asistentes legales visitan la escuela para reunirse con las familias. Al ofrecer estos servicios en las escuelas, las familias cuentan con un espacio seguro para hacer preguntas, tienen la oportunidad de realizar consultas individuales y la posibilidad de revisar problemas específicos de manera gratuita con un abogado hispanoahablante.

La escuela organiza a los padres que desean



La PTA de la IS 145 y la Coalición de Inmigración de Nueva York trabajan juntas.

entrevistarse con los abogados y programa reuniones durante las horas de clase. Cada mes, 21 familias tienen citas individuales que comienzan en la escuela y más tarde pasan a las oficinas de los abogados en Manhattan. Lo que hace magnífico a NYIC es que no importa si usted tiene problemas menores o preguntas simples sobre su situación migratoria; si sus problemas son grandes o enfrenta una orden de deportación, los abogados

de NYC están dispuestos a tomar su caso. Me enteré sobre esta organización por medio de una madre que tiene a un hijo en la escuela. Ella me comentó que se trataba de una organización de la ciudad fundada en 1987 pero desplazada por Bill DeBlasio, y me di cuenta de que pronto podría convertirse en un recurso invaluable para las familias de mi escuela. La organización lleva ya cuatro meses operando y planeamos su continuación para este mayo.

### Llamado a todos los amantes de los árboles

POR LEN MANIACE

Tree-LC—programa de JHBG para el reverdecimiento de la Avenida 37—regresa esta primavera con planes aún más ambiciosos. La fecha de inicio está dispuesta para el sábado 6 de abril, cuando comenzaremos a limpiar y cultivar más de 60 jardineras de árboles (algunas también en la calle 75). Este año trabajaremos la mayoría de los fines de semana, normalmente los sábados, y alguno que otro domingo. El punto de encuentro es en la esquina de la calle 80 y la Avenida 37 a las 10:00 a. m. Si necesitas más información o deseas unirse, escribe a [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org) con la palabra "Tree Gardens" en la línea de asunto.

### Primer juego familiar de Búsqueda del Tesoro

POR NUALA O'DOHERTY

El sábado 20 de abril al mediodía, JHBG presentará su primer juego familiar de Búsqueda del Tesoro. El tema es "animales en Jackson Heights." El evento comenzará a las 11:45 a. m. con la distribución de un cuadernillo con la pista de 10 animales. A las 12:00 p. m. las familias comenzarán la búsqueda por todo Jackson Heights saliendo de Diversity Plaza (calle 73 y Broadway). Un voluntario de JHBG en cada uno de los 10 sitios pondrá una estampa en el cuadernillo si el animal del sitio fue encontrado. Cada familia que regrese a Diversity Plaza a las 2:00 p.m. con nueve estampas recibirá una recompensa, y serán premiados los tres primeros grupos en regresar. Si tienes ideas para algún evento en Diversity Plaza, escríbenos a [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org).

### Reimaginemos el Internet a través de la mirada del vecindario

POR THOMAS LOWENHAUPT

Todos percibimos que lo asombroso e impresionante de internet debería tener la capacidad de cubrir las necesidades a corto y largo plazo de nuestro vecindario. Pero su impacto ha sido mínimo. Hasta hace poco el vecindario no había tenido una plataforma controlada capaz de servir como instrumento de impacto a las necesidades de nuestros residentes y organizaciones. Para lograrlo y apoyar a las organizaciones ya existentes, estamos desarrollando [JacksonHeights.nyc](http://JacksonHeights.nyc). Es un esfuerzo de voluntariado que tendrá éxito solo con la participación de los residentes.

### Esfuerzo de equipo por el reverdecimiento del separador vial de la Avenida 34

POR EVIE MCKENNA

En el último año JHBG ha estado trabajando activamente con NYC Parks en el corredor verde más largo de Jackson Heights. La Avenida 34 tiene una hermosa franja intermedia de vegetación que da un acento verde al vecindario. Pusimos en marcha un plan para trabajar en algunas calles (de la 79 a la 82) que fueron cultivadas por voluntarios del vecindario para mostrar sus buenas intenciones. Este año queremos continuar con las mejoras del separador, calle por calle, hasta que las 26 cuadras queden renovadas. Busca nuestras invitaciones para unirse como voluntario esta primavera.



### Últimas noticias sobre Travers Park

POR LESLIE ELLMAN

El vecindario está emocionado por la reapertura parcial de Travers Park. Los paseantes pueden otra vez entrar al parque desde la Avenida 34 y disfrutar de una caminata por las nuevas sendas que rodean lo que será nuestra gran zona de césped. Están abiertas las áreas de balonmano y de juegos para niños de 5 a 12 años; se han instalado nuevos columpios así como equipo para girar y escalar. Se espera que la construcción de un área de juegos para los más pequeños comience entre mediados de mayo y el comienzo del verano. El final de la construcción principal para el Campo Staunton y la apertura de la zona de césped están programados para septiembre de este año.

### Compost en el vecindario: noticias acerca del Programa de Recolección de Orgánicos de la Ciudad

POR MELISSA ZAVALA

Durante los pasados cinco años, JHBG ha estado apoyando el proyecto de compost llamado JH-SCRAPS. Con la introducción del Programa de Recolección de Orgánicos de la Ciudad de Nueva York, propuesto bajo la administración de Michael Bloomberg, el futuro de este programa ha quedado en

la incertidumbre. Con un servicio a 3.5 millones de residentes a lo largo de los cinco distritos, los esfuerzos de la ciudad por recolectar desperdicios orgánicos quedaron temporalmente suspendidos desde el verano pasado por el Departamento de Salubridad de la Comisario Kathryn García. Dadas estas nuevas circunstancias, nuestros modestos esfuerzos por acopiar los desperdicios continuarán sirviendo a un propósito vital en Jackson Heights. Por favor, considera donar tus desperdicios de comida al centro de compost de JH-SCRAPS ubicado justo en la Avenida 35 y la calle 69, los sábados entre 11:00 a. m. y 1:00 p. m. ¡Esperamos verte pronto!

### Se anuncia nuevo director para la Escuela Pública 398 Q. Una nueva escuela primaria abrirá en septiembre

POR NUALA O'DOHERTY

El superintendente Philip A. Composto anunció en

la reunión del Concejo de Educación de la Comunidad del distrito 30 que la directora de la nueva escuela en Jackson Heights, PS 398, será Erica Urena-Thus (@Erica\_Thus). La escuela abrirá este septiembre con tres clases de preescolar y cuatro de materno infantil. Se espera que la escuela incremente un grado por año y tenga su primera generación de graduados del quinto grado en 2025. JHBG planea organizar una agrupación de padres para reunirse con la nueva directora. Si tiene hijos que comenzarán preescolar o materno infantil y se les ha asignado la nueva escuela, por favor escriba a [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org) para que podamos ponerlo en contacto con otros padres de familia.

### La Agencia para Edificios Históricos recomendó la expansión limitada del Distrito Histórico de Jackson Heights

POR LEN MANIACE

¡Felicidades, Jackson Heights! Después de que JHBG pidiera a los residentes unirse a la campaña para expandir el Distrito Histórico de Jackson Heights, la Comisión para la Preservación de Edificios Históricos (LPC, por sus siglas en inglés) tomó cartas en el asunto. Aunque la última recomendación de la LPC de extender el distrito varias cuadras al Este y al Oeste fue decepcionante, constituyó el primer signo de progreso en los esfuerzos de JHBG desde hace ocho años. Para obtener más información visita nuestra página de Facebook dedicada específicamente a la expansión:

[www.facebook.com/JacksonHeightsHistoric/](https://www.facebook.com/JacksonHeightsHistoric/)

# Composting Locally: Update on the City's Organics Collection Program

BY MELISSA ZAVALA

For the past five years, the Jackson Heights Beautification Group has been supporting a composting project called JH-SCRAPS (an acronym for "Scraps Collection to Revitalize the Area's Poor Soils"). This program has collected everything from dried flowers to egg shells, coffee grinds, fruits, vegetables, and garden waste. SCRAPS began as an opportunity for neighborhood residents who lack garden space to divert their kitchen refuse from the main waste stream and instead produce useful compost for the neighborhood's green areas. With JHBG's many gardening projects, our composting center has been useful for supporting everything from tree care to the creation and expansion of green spaces between 69th Street and Junction Boulevard.

But with the rollout of New York City's municipal Organics Collection Program, proposed under Michael Bloomberg's administration, the future of this program has been tentative. Now serving 3.5 million residents across the five boroughs, the city's efforts to compost organic waste have been temporarily halted since last summer by Department of Sanitation Commissioner Kathryn Garcia. The city's program has faced some hurdles



Bring organic waste to SCRAPS on Saturdays, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., year round!

and a reassessment of its aims, and rates of participation are under further evaluation. Given this new development,

our own modest efforts to curb waste will continue to serve a vital purpose in our neighborhood.

Not only does JH-SCRAPS produce compost for improving the area's poor soils, it also supports citywide efforts to curtail waste by reducing and recycling household trash. Organic waste currently makes up more than one-third of the city's municipal waste, according to the city government's latest Waste Characterization Study (2017). The benefits of compost in the neighborhood's gardens is a great reason to contribute your scraps. And so is reducing waste and providing models of support for processing waste locally in a clean and neighborhood-friendly way. Please consider donating your food waste—along with any slightly soiled paper bags, coffee filters, and tea bags—which you can bring to the

**JH-SCRAPS Composting Center, located just off 35th Avenue on 69th Street**, below the train tracks. Throughout the year, we welcome you at SCRAPS! Don't know what to do with planting debris or clippings from hedges after garden cleanup this spring? Just put them in paper or clear plastic bags (please remove and recycle any plastic containers or flats). Keep SCRAPS in mind next fall, too, when it's time for disposing of raked leaves, Halloween pumpkins, and Thanksgiving gourds. Bring all your organic waste on Saturdays between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. all year round. We look forward to seeing you soon!

# The Audience Experience – Jackson Heights Orchestra

BY BARBARA MILLER

Are you new to Jackson Heights, or just eager to experience something beautiful down the street?

My husband and I made a discovery by St. Mark's Church one afternoon in February, when we came upon an understated burgundy-red sign standing on the sidewalk, announcing simply CONCERT TODAY in gold lettering. It's lovely to have a neighborhood churchyard on 34th Avenue, and it felt to us as if the quaint sign might have stood on that same spot for another event even a century ago.

People were on their way in, so we joined them. Inside the door, members of the JHBG welcomed us. Under the church's vaulted ceilings, afternoon light streamed through colorful stained glass, illuminating the stone interior. Its dark pews brimmed with people, shedding their coats, finding room to sit.

The hour-long concert would feature the Jackson Heights Orchestra's string musicians (seven violinists, two violists, two cellists, and a bass player) in a sophisticated program of works by Felix Mendelssohn, Frank Bridge, Nancy Strelau, and Edvard Grieg. At a recent fundraiser for JHBG, we had met Cari Sobolewski, who'd told us about her enthusiastic involvement with the orchestra, and we soon spotted her happily tuning her violin in the crossing. Two grade schoolers, looking eager for the music to begin, snuggled with their dad in the first pew, near the cellos and bass. "Look at those adorable little girls," I whispered. "Do you think they'll enjoy it?" my husband replied doubtfully, having fathered our two kids, known to fidget and talk in similar settings long ago.

Nuala O'Doherty of the JHBG greeted the young families, singles, couples, seniors, and teens in the audience. Then Patricia Glunt, the artistic director and conductor, graciously got things underway. Her remarks introducing each composition were insightful, humorous, and personal. It turned out she was a friend of Nancy Strelau, the contemporary composer whose



The JH Orchestra Strings in performance at St. Mark's Church

compelling "Four Miniatures" was featured.

The music soared. Each selection offered unique pleasures for the rapt listeners, who shared an opportunity to experience live the solemn, lilting, playful, and searching melodies. There was joy in the music, its disciplined performers, and the gathered audience. The JH string players are an exemplary ensemble, attending to each other, playing together with respect. The two little girls in front of us were exemplary too—not a peep out of them, taking turns on their father's lap. "Maybe they know one of the musicians?" I marveled afterward, as we made our way to a festive reception (coordinated by Louise Mulvihill of JHBG) in the parish house. And a few minutes later that suspicion was confirmed: after grabbing a few Cheetos, they ran to congratulate and embrace their young mother, Mina Marietta, one of the violinists, as she came in to join them.

The sign outside might hark back to another time, but the church and its visitors were full of new life that day. Another concert is planned for May 15 at St. Joseph's RC Church in Astoria.

## Words That Tell the JH Story

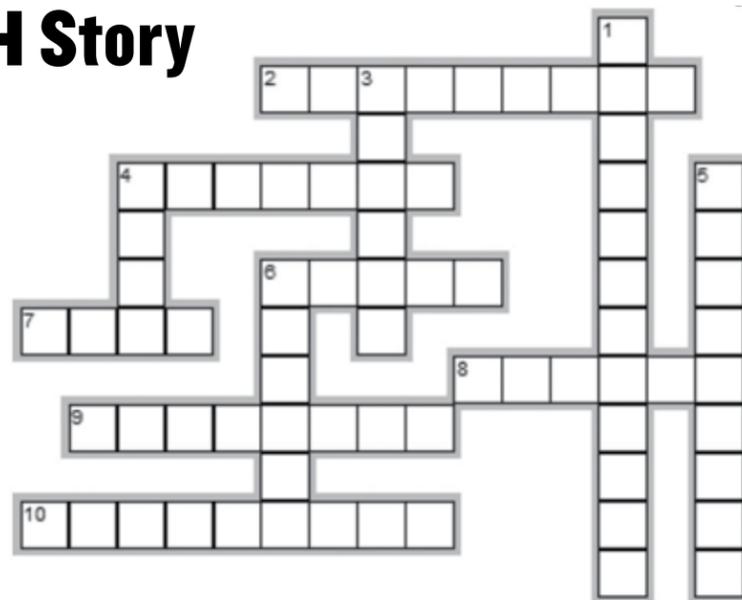
### Across

- JH has its own \_\_\_\_\_ (for music lovers)
- New platform for listening to stories featuring people behind great neighborhood events
- Gift from holiday trees that keeps on giving
- Site that allows visitors to add or edit content
- Great place for stir crazy canines who long to run free ( 2 words)
- Queens supports film with its own \_\_\_\_\_
- Mark your calendar for this JH beautification activity

### Down

- NYC Parks group that worked with JHBG volunteers to beautify 34th Avenue
- White \_\_\_\_\_, prior corporate occupant of site where PS 398 will open this fall
- Named after Thomas J. Travers, this oasis reopens in the fall
- Tree-LC beautified our post office with this type of plant (blooming alliums, shrubs, and evergreens); they come back every year!
- A strip of verdant green on 34th Avenue

Answer Key on page 14.



## Queens World Film Festival 9 March 2019

At this film festival, over 200 feature and short films of all genres and types were shown. Programmed into 61 blocks, over the 11 days of the festival, this annual gathering is one of the most exciting Indie events on the festival circuit.

Treasures from 31 nations were presented at the prestigious Museum of the Moving Image or right next door at the Historic Kaufman Astoria Studios—with talkbacks, Q&As, industry panels, and plenty of other networking opportunities, as well as full access to festival directors, filmmakers, and special guests.

—Louise Mulvihill

www.queensworldfilmfestival.com



**MulchFest!** As part of JHBG's commitment to greening the neighborhood, we have partnered with the Department of Parks and Recreation to collect Christmas trees every year since 2012. This past January, MulchFest volunteers spread mulch in street tree pits to provide trees with additional warmth and moisture throughout the winter. (Photo by Jannelle McCoy)

# The JHBG Dog Run

PHOTOS BY JERRY GOLDMAN

The JHBG Dog Run is a tight-knit group of dog owners. Tucked under the Brooklyn Queens Expressway at 69th Street and 35th Avenue, the small and large dog run has been there for nine years. To join, feel free to fill out the application on our website, [www.JHBG.org](http://www.JHBG.org), with proof of your dog's vaccinations.



From left: Bunny and Marcy, Jacob, and Franklin.

## An Interview with Evie McKenna: New View from the Heights Podcast

**Q: When did you get the idea to produce a podcast?**

**A:** The podcast idea came to me when I noticed that many of the podcasts that I listen to are made by nonprofits like JHBG. And they seem to be comfortable telling people that producing these segments that listeners enjoy requires funding with introductory commercials. We were looking for a way at JHBG to be more timely with some of our events, and social media has been one answer. We have an active Facebook page and Instagram account along with a strong email list that we send out big announcements on. But there seemed to be a place for the longer form that the newsletter handles and that, now, the podcast can take on too, with local stories that go beyond one or two paragraphs of information.

**Q: What type of material do you plan to feature on the podcast?**

**A:** We are looking for subjects that are Jackson Heights based but have broad appeal. One of our intentions is to show who is behind some of the wonderful things that happen in our neighborhood concerning the arts, politics, history, and environment. It is our hope that hearing about the back story will be revealing to our listeners and that we can continue to profile people, events, and places that are making Jackson Heights such a great neighborhood within NYC.

**Q: What inspired the subject of your first segment, Valentine's Day?**

**A:** Our first subject, George from Ultima Florist, was a natural because he is the florist most centrally located in the neighborhood, near the hospital, the houses of worship, and right smack in the middle of our 37th Avenue shopping area. Behind the scenes of Valentine's Day as it plays out here in Jackson Heights felt like a good introduction to podcasting for our group.



Alfonso Quiroz, host of the first two podcasts, also helped produce them

**Q: I understand you've already completed a second?**

**A:** Yes. That podcast profiles Katha and Don Cato who graciously took time out from their Queens World Film Festival programming madness to speak to us. They are absolutely lovely as a couple, first off, and then we feel their passion in bringing the festival to life each year. The work that they do locally with PS69 classes is a

beautiful thing in and of itself, but that is only one element of the festival (although it is an amazing neighborhood event along with the red-carpet treatment at the premiere). They want to provide a conduit for filmmakers' works to be seen here, in Queens, in the same way that we in Jackson Heights want to be an inviting community that welcomes many different cultures.

**Q: What's next? What has the response been so far?**

**A:** We have plans for future podcasts that speak about changes happening soon in Jackson Heights, focusing on people who are based here and doing good works, as well as things that are planned long term for which the rewards may even be felt by future generations. At this time, the podcast is so new that we can't say what the frequency will be, but we've been encouraged by the listeners so far to keep them coming. Suggestions are welcome and we are still shaping the ideas, so this is a fine time to chime in on whom or what you might like to hear about in Jackson Heights. Thanks go to the Board of Directors at JHBG for their enthusiastic support, Alfonso Quiroz, who has helped mightily in hosting and producing our first two podcasts, and Ed Wesley who was the facilitator here.

Check out the latest podcast at <https://soundcloud.com/user-570401025/queens-world-film-festival>

# Director Announced for PS 398 Q New Elementary School to Open in September

BY NUALA O'DOHERTY

Superintendent Philip A. Composto announced at the Community Education Council District 30 meeting that the Director of the new school in Jackson Heights, PS 398, will be Erica Urena-Thus (@Erica\_Thus). The School will open this September with three kindergarten and four pre-kindergarten classes. The school is expected to grow one grade per year and have its first graduating class of fifth graders in 2025.

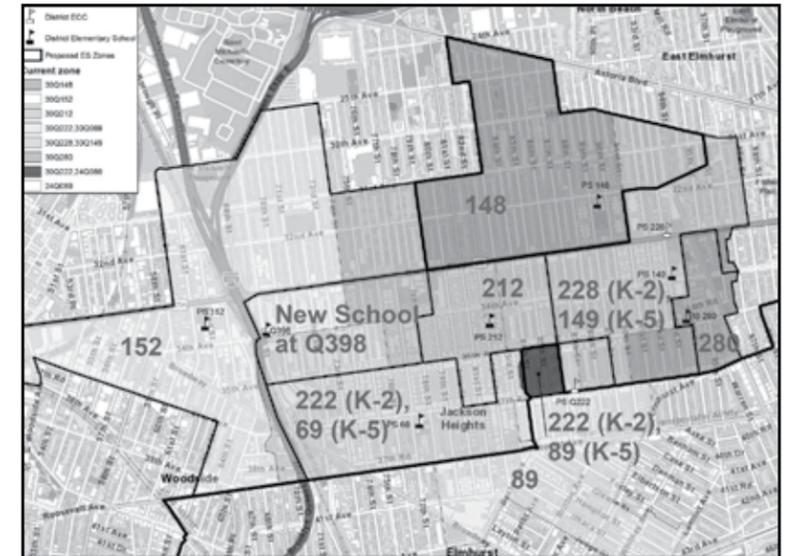
The entire neighborhood has been re-zoned effective September of 2019, so as PS 398 grows, neighboring schools PS 212, PS 228, and PS 280 will each have one less class per year. While the new school will reduce overcrowding, each local school is still expected to be at or above 100% of capacity. The rezoning will not change where students currently attend school, and siblings of students in current elementary schools will be offered a preference to stay at the same school as their siblings. The new school will be zoned from Travers Park to the BQE between 35th Avenue and Northern Blvd. The zones for many of the other local schools were also changed to reduce overcrowding. A new zoning map is at right.

PS 398 will be on the site that once housed the White Castle corporate offices and across the street from a bowling alley. While there will be no schoolyard, there will be a play area on the roof. The newly announced school director, Erica Urena-Thus, will hire the initial seven teachers, and once the school is actually formed, a committee of school leaders and parents will help select the first principal from a list of candidates provided by the Department of Education.

JHBG plans to organize a parent group to meet with the new director. If you have a child who will be starting kindergarten or pre-K and is zoned for the new school, please e-mail [info@JHBG.org](mailto:info@JHBG.org), so we can connect you with other new parents.



Construction on new PS 398 nears completion!



## Summer Sundays in Travers Park

BY RHODA DUNN

JHBG is proud to return with our Summer Sunday concerts in Travers Park. Each Sunday in July and August we will bring you a live performance. This year the performances will begin later, at 6 p.m., in the hopes that the temperature will be a little cooler for the audience. JHBG is lining up performers and we expect an eclectic mix of jazz, classical, and R & B music. The season will conclude with a performance by the CityParks PuppetMobile and an original work by Theater for the New City. Look out for our poster along 37th Avenue in May. **Summer Sundays begin on Sunday, July 7 at 6 p.m. in Travers Park.**

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# CELEBRATE HISTORIC JACKSON HEIGHTS

Sponsored by the Jackson Heights Beautification Group

**Join the JHBG in celebrating Jackson Heights, the first  
planned garden and cooperative apartment community in America  
and a City, State, and Federal Historic District**

## Saturday, June 8th

Raindate for Garden Tour: June 15th - all other events rain or shine

### Slide Lecture on the History of Jackson Heights

At 10:45am and 12:15pm at the Community Church, 81-10 35th Avenue; FREE

### Exhibition of Vintage Photos and Memorabilia

From 10:00am to 2:00pm at the Community Church, 81-10 35th Avenue; FREE  
Leisurely view many original photographs, maps and brochures from Jackson Heights' early days

### A Self-Guided Tour of Private Interior Gardens

From 12 noon to 4:00pm. These park-like private gardens, surrounded by 1920s-era garden apartments, are only open to the public once a year. Visit up to fifteen gardens at your own pace, following a map included in your ticket; Tickets can be purchased in advance or in front of the Community Church, 81-10 35th Ave, on Saturday morning; \$10

## Sunday, June 9th

### Escorted Walking Tours of the Historic District - Rain or shine

At 12 noon. Tickets must be purchased or reserved in advance. The tours will meet in front of the Community Church, the southwestern corner of 82nd Street and 35th Avenue; \$10

### Special Ticket Pricing - Save Money by Attending Both Tours!

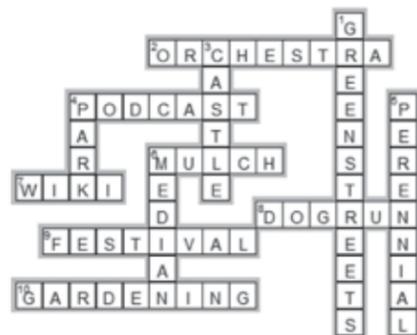
Tickets are \$10 for one tour, \$15 for both tours

Tickets may be purchased beginning May 25th at: Espresso 77, 35-57 77th Street and Beaudoin Realty Group, 78-27 37th Avenue, Suite 5, Second Floor - Weekdays 11am to 5pm

For ticket information and directions leave a message at (347) 766-9129

## JH Crossword Answer Key

Puzzle on page 10.



## Tree GiveAway

JHBG and NY Restoration Project will be hosting a fruit and flowering Tree Giveaway on Sunday, April 28th at the JH Green Market on 79th Street near Rory Staunton Field. For more information, check out NY Restoration Project online at [www.NYRP.org](http://www.NYRP.org).

## Eating (continued from page 7)

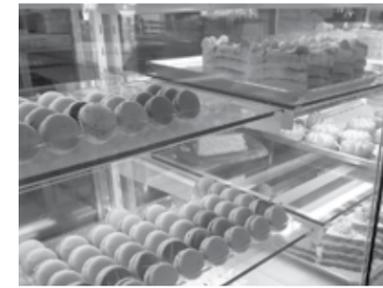
pork feast, or lechon, a whole roast pig. A variety of lunch bowls are also available. (37-07 83rd Street, Tuesday-Thursday and Sunday, 11 a.m.-9 p.m., Friday and Saturday, 11 a.m.-11 p.m., closed Monday—347-724-9586)

### BAMBOO HOUSE & BAR

Combining Nepali, Indian, Tibetan and Continental influences for a perfect neighborhood mix, this lively restaurant, owned by four area residents, rounded off 2018 with a late November debut. Choices range from Himalayan momos and thukpa to Indian tandoori and curry dishes, along with appetizers, soups, salads and desserts. Vegetarian specialties are also available, and the owners are planning to add light breakfasts starting at 6 a.m. (76-03 37th Avenue, Daily, 11 a.m.-11 p.m.—718-440-9228, [bamboohousebar.com](http://bamboohousebar.com))

### FARINE BAKING COMPANY

Opened in early March, 2019, this is the most recent entrant on our list. Late morning of its second Saturday in business, Farine was packed with



The display at Farine Baking Company

customers, young and old, sampling baked goods, robust coffees, and teas (such as Earl Grey, Oolong, Jasmine Green, and herbal). An elegant glass case runs the length of the space showcasing a mouth-watering array of baked goods (cakes and pies as well as individually sized portions) that include napoleon pastries; lemon meringue and apricot-almond tarts; dark chocolate mousse, raspberry buttercream, and red velvet cakes; as well as muffins, scones, bagels, and baguettes. Owned and operated by Michael Mignano, former pastry chef at the Pierre Hotel, the roughly 3,000 square foot space accommodates baking on premises. (74-24 37th Avenue, Daily, 6:30 a.m.-10 p.m.)

## Immigration Help for Parents at IS 145

**P**artnering with the New York Immigration Coalition (NYIC), IS 145

has developed a program for any of its families seeking clear immigration information. Spearheaded by PTA president **Martha Sanchez** (pictured, right) the program offers a safe setting for individual families to consult for free with a Spanish-speaking attorney and three paralegals on questions specific to each family's circumstance. The school schedules the monthly meetings during school hours; each month 21 families have individual appointments. Consultations begin at the school and eventually move to NYIC offices in Manhattan. Whether concerns involve minor immigration questions or major issues, such as deportation orders, NYIC is willing to take on any case. With 1,400 students (88% Latinx) at IS 145, this is a vital service to our community.



## Friends & Neighbors: Please join us or renew your membership

Do not let your JHBG membership expire, or if you are not a member, please consider joining. Membership not only provides you with a subscription to our *Views from the Heights*, but more importantly, it helps fund our numerous community activities. JHBG is a volunteer organization – we need your help, your support and your ideas. JHBG is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, so your contribution is tax deductible.

### There are two ways to register:

**1. Online:** Go to [www.JHBG.org/donate](http://www.JHBG.org/donate) and pay by credit card. It's quick and easy!

**2. By Mail:** Send a check in the amount of the membership level you select, along with this letter, to:  
**JHBG – Membership • P.O Box 720253 • Jackson Heights, NY 11372**

### Please circle membership level:

Individual—\$50      Benefactor—\$500  
Family—\$100      Sponsor—\$1,000  
Patron—\$250      Other \_\_\_\_\_

### Please print the following:

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

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

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

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

### Are you interested in being contacted about any of the following JHBG activities?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

### Which programs most interest you? (circle your choices)

Clean and Green	Graffiti Busters
Jackson Heights Orchestra	JH-CREW      JH-SCRAPS
Newsletter	Tree LC      Website

Special events (Halloween Parade, Holiday Lighting, Summer Sundays, Town Halls, etc.)

Other: \_\_\_\_\_



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IEWS FROM THE HEIGHTS – Spring 2019

# SPRING GARDENING

Every Saturday from April to November, JHBG garden volunteers work on one of our 19 garden spaces from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. We supply gloves, tools, plants, and water. You clean and green the neighborhood. We are gardeners, so we work rain or shine. Everyone is welcome.

**INTO  
ACTION**

- 4/6** Spring Planning Breakfast – 35-18 90th Street
- 4/13** IS 145 – 79th Street & 34th Avenue
- 4/20** Diversity Plaza Clean Up and JHBG Scavenger Hunt
- 4/27** Leverich Cemetery – enter at 72nd Street & 35th Avenue
- 5/4** PS 149 – 93rd Street & 34th Avenue
- 5/11** BQE – meet at 35th Avenue & 69th Street
- 5/18** PS 148 – 89th Street & 32nd Avenue
- 5/25** IS 230 – 73rd Street & 34th Avenue
- 6/1** PS 280 – 94th Street & 35th Avenue

