



FIRST DISTRICT  
FEDERATED GARDEN CLUBS OF NYS, INC.

MAY, 2018

*The Garden Line*

VOLUME 20 ISSUE 1

GraceAnn Morawek, District Director

Robert Bauer, Editor  
Lucille Bauer, Production Asst.



*Directors Message*  
*By Graceann Morawek*

Since forwarding the last Garden Line report in November 2017, District One's Co-Directors have been busy.

Holiday festivities for all Clubs were attended and we co-hosted the District's gathering on Dec. 4, 2017. Here was a good opportunity to reflect on 2017 achievements but also a valuable occasion to gather interesting input for 2018 Club projects. Despite an unforeseen snow storm the Philadelphia Flower Show excursion annually sponsored by the Great Kills Garden Club—their stellar event—was a success. What a pleasure to step into Spring indoors—while outdoors winter held sway. We attended the Spring Conference at Binghamton, New York April 15-17, always an interesting forum for the FGCNYS, Inc. Other attendees included First State Vice President, Lucille Bauer, former District Director Carol Berardi, JoAnne Schiffner and Cynthia Turpin-Friday.

District One's Annual Spring luncheon will be held at the Staaten on April 26, 2018. Always a Spring hi-lite. This year our guest speaker will be Kent Russell, a Buck's County, Pa. horticulture expert. Not only will we be featuring a Boutique, but for the second time a bake sale—sweets provided by District one bakers. Denise Solomon, Assistant District Director is this year's luncheon Chairman, and we take the opportunity to express our gratitude for her loyal support. The following day, April 27 is Arbor Day and Great Kills Garden Club will have a tree planting at the Conference House. And our annual flower show, all clubs participating, will be June 16th at the New Dorp Moravian Parish Hall. On September 29, Richmond Evergreen Garden Club will Sponsor a Silver Tea at Saint Christopher's Community Center on Midland Avenue

This year, we will initiate new projects and secure new members. Once again we thank you for your continuing loyal support.

Most Cordially,  
Graceann Morawek and Virginia Bodrate  
Co - District Directors

**Save the Date**  
**District One Flower Show**  
**Wedding Memories**  
**June 16, 2018 - New Dorp Moravian Church**

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## District Officers

**Graceann Morawek**  
**Virginia Bodrate**  
Co-Directors  
**Denise Solomon**  
Assistant Director  
**Marilyn Curcio**  
Corresponding Secretary

**Bess Cordella**  
Recording Secretary  
**Bonnie Rogers,**  
Treasurer  
**Theresa Corey**  
Asst. Treasurer

## Club Presidents

**Castle Manor** Lucille Bauer  
Evelia Foster  
**Great Kills** Marilyn Curcio  
**Richmond-Evergreen** Lenora D Msauch

**South Shore** Gertrude Sokolowsky  
**Staten Island** Teresa Torsney  
Carolyn M. Brown –Rhodes

## Upcoming Events

### 2018

**April 26th** - First District Semi - Annual Meeting and Luncheon - The Staaten

**May 7th** - Executive Board Meeting at Director's home - 10am

**May 16th** - Mothers Day Tea—Great Kills GC Open Meeting—Gert Coleman—Best Hat Contest. \$5.00 Tea Tax.

**May 19th** - SIGC Boat Trip—Teri Torsney—\$65.00

**June 4th** - First District Meeting at Great Kills Moravian Church 9:30 Coffee - 10:00 Meeting - Great Kills GC Hostesses

**June 15th** - Flower Show set-up at New Dorp Moravian Church

**June 16th** - First district Flower Show

**June 22nd** - GKGC bus trip to Culinary Institute

**July 14** - District Bus Trip to NY Botanical Gardens - Carol Berardi \$65.00

**Sept. 11-13** - FGCNYS Fall Conference - Corning , NY

**Sept. 29** - REGC tea - location TBA

**October** - St. Paul's Flower Festival - Date TBA

**October** - District Fall luncheon - date TBA

**Nov. 13** - FGCNYS Winter Board Meeting - Guilderland NY

**Nov. 14** - CMGC Open Meeting—"Come Ferment With Us"

**Dec. 3** - Holiday Party - SIGC

### WEB LINKS

**National Garden Clubs:** <http://gardenclub.org> (Login with "member" as a user name and "world" as a password to access full site.

**Federated Garden Clubs of New York State:** [www.fgcny.com](http://www.fgcny.com)

**District One, FGCNYS:** [sigardenclubs.org](http://sigardenclubs.org).

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## Club News

### Castle Manor

2017 was a successful year with so many program and activities for our members.

We kicked off the year with a wonderful program on **Herbal Oils in Biblical Times** by Rev. Tracy Pryor of Great Kills Moravian Church. Next, our **Open Meeting Flower Bingo** was a fund raiser for the club.

In June, we toured the **Chinese Scholar Garden** with a presentation by Greg Lord, the Director of Horticulture. Next, we had a **Preparation for Weather Disasters** by Lt. Garcia of Naval Affairs. In October, a **Halloween Herbs & Lore** program by Gert Coleman. Skye Suter gave a workshop for all the members to make **Yankee Cornhusks Dolls and Flowers**. And, in December we held our holiday dinner at the Real Madrid with a program by Evelyn Koehler on the **Symbolism of the Fir Tree in holiday traditions**.

Our new project for 2017 was at PS 37 providing assistance in landscaping a new vegetable and herbal garden with young adults at the school. We have participated in all District functions and trips.

Upcoming in 2018, we are having a **Master Gardener present a program on Composing, a local beekeeper, trip to Fresh Kills Park** with tour and update on what's new plus lunch at Jimmy Maxx.

More to come after summer including our **November 14, 2018 OPEN MEETING "Come Ferment with Us"**.

Lucille Bauer, reporting

### Great Kills

Our January meeting was cancelled due to weather. February's meeting was officer's Annual Reports, Chairmen's reports and business. Program was how to create award winning tables. Our Spring meeting was a trip to the Philadelphia Flower Show. World of Water was the best yet. We also planned our new yearbook. Our March meeting was a stretch design. Richmond Evergreen was kind enough to join us. Each group was judged by an accredited judge. April meeting was about invasive plants. Our speaker gave a lecture on plants that our gardens and how to get rid of them. The May meeting will be a Mother's Day Tea. We will hear a lecture on different varieties of tea and sample them. After the talk we will have a tea party and enjoy tea sandwiches and de-

serts. This will be an open meeting. A small tea tax will be charged.

We will be part of an Arbor Day celebration at the Conference House which will celebrate 40 years as a landmark. We are all looking forward to a trip to the Culinary Institute on June 22, 2018. The club will be working on two gardens: Seaside Park and Bloomingdale Park. Very busy Spring ahead. See you all soon.

Lillian Ferrelli, reporting

### RICHMOND EVERGREEN

In November our club was very busy as Lenora Mauch and Nancy Corraera chaired our Tea, The Wonderful World of Disney at Excelsior Grand. We were very grateful for so many District members who attended to support our club. Thanks to all members who designed a Disney themed table. At our November meeting REGGC members decorated holiday wreaths, which were donated.

In early December the Garibaldi-Meucci Museum was beautifully decorated for the Christmas holidays.

Also in December Nadia Maraghy graciously opened her home to all members for a holiday cookie swap party. All enjoyed a delicious meal and of course the cookies!

Our Holiday dinner was held at The Stone House. January and February were months of rest for the club. In March we resumed our monthly meetings for 2018. Graceann Morawek and Virginia Bodrate installed all of our new board members. Our new board is as follows: President, Lenora Mauch,

1st Vice President, Suzanne Quinn, 2nd Vice President, Carol Boylan, Recording Secretary, Susan Marretta, Corresponding Secretary, Theresa Corey, Treasurer, Maryann Burchie and Assistant Treasurer, Connie Galifi. Many thanks to all our outgoing board members! In April Club member, Nina Marra, Professor at School of Architecture NJ Institute of Technology demonstrated how to photograph flowers with a cell phone and on the use of lighting to enhance pictures. At the District Luncheon members are looking forward to being hostesses.

Member Bernadette Sullivan who is chairing the District Flower Show along with Stella Gasparo of Great Kills Garden Club encouraged members to participate with an Entry for the show.

Jo-Anne Schiffner and Carol Berardi attended the State meeting in Binghamton where we received a third place award for our 2016 Press Book.

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## *Club News*

Lastly we are sad to report Honorary Member and previous President (Huguenot Garden Club), Peg Galligan passed away in February. She will be forever missed.

Carol Boylan reporting

## **SOUTH SHORE**

Our annual Holiday Party held on Saturday, December 9th was both a financial and social success. Thank you to all those members of First District that attended. Toys were collected and donated to the St. Vincent DePaul Society, St. Joseph-St. Thomas Church. In December poinsettia plants were placed at the Blessed Mother Grotto at Joseph's Church.

An Executive Board Meeting took place in January to discuss goals and objectives for the coming year. Discussion took place concerning the tree to be planted in memory of our longtime and founding member, Edna Anderson. The club will follow up with Director of the Conference House Park concerning the tree. A floral design workshop conducted by Gertrude Sokolowsky took place at our April meeting. We also discussed the importance of entering horticulture in the upcoming First District Flower Show on Saturday, June 16th. Lori Burgess announced that she will be doing a design and also an educational exhibit for the flower show. Gertrude thanked Lori for her participation in the flower show. Thank you to all our members that attended the recent Spring District Luncheon at the Staaten. Our club was awarded a NYS World Gardening Award for our participation. At our May meeting a Mothers Day floral design workshop will take place. In celebration of National Garden Week in June, window boxes will be filled with flowers and herbs by our members at our meeting place, the entrance of the Paul Kroon Center at the Messiah Lutheran Church. Save the Date- our Annual Holiday Party will take place on Saturday, December 8, 2018, Historic Old Bermuda Inn, 12:00 noon to 3:00 pm Cost: \$50 per person. For reservations call Lynne McNamara, 917.301.3124. Enjoy your summer!

Gertrude Sokolowsky and  
Lynne McNamara reporting

## **STATEN ISLAND**

Since The Garden Line's last issue we celebrated the December holidays with a festive, delicious and relaxing luncheon at Italianissimo Restaurant. A special treat were the lovely holiday centerpieces created by Pat Harder and her committee. Frosty January included activity and year-book planning meetings as well as proudly submitting Flor Rodriguez's name to the FGCNYS Book of Recognition for her tireless work in encouraging and securing attendees for District luncheons and club activities. Congratulations, Flor!

Our popular flower arrangement workshop was our February program with Dolly Smith chairing. She, along with Alma DiSimone as co-chair offered suggestions and support to participants. They encouraged members to complete their arrangements as well as participate in the June District Flower Show, attend a flower show class or horticulture course. We also welcomed two new members and installed three newly elected Board members: Marianne Brunner, Dawn Schioppo, and Anita Wadas. Retiring Board members Alma DiSimone, Celide Hogan, and Dolly Smith were thanked for their leadership and service.

March included a much needed spring cleanup at the Alice Austen Family Gravesite. Happily, good weather prevailed and this was completed in time for Alice's March 17 birthday. We also established a new project serving as volunteer greeters at the Snug Harbor Greenhouse when it opens for visitors in the warmer months. Our meeting program was "Gardening for Wildlife" presented by Christopher Ricker, Environmental Educator at High Rock Park and the Greenbelt Nature Center. As the "Borough of Parks" many creatures, large and small, winged and furry call Staten Island home and we left the meeting with much information and helpful suggestions.

At our April meeting, we commemorated National Arbor Day with a short but meaningful indoor ceremony. Meanwhile, heavy spring showers watered a newly planted Rhododendron azalea "Johanna" on the grounds of All Saints Episcopal Church. We can easily say that our program was "out of this world!" Harold Kozak, Professor of Astronomy at Wagner College and Solar System Ambassador for NASA/JPL spoke on the real probability of life on other planets and moons in our solar system as well as on distant galaxies. Using distinct and unusual earth plants he made a compelling argument supporting extra-terrestrial life.



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Happily, twenty-seven members attended the District Luncheon on April 26. It was a wonderful occasion with friendly conversation, delicious food, terrific raffle gifts, beautiful cakes, and boutique treasures. Kent Russell, "The Garden Guru" was our keynote speaker and gave a fabulous program. His unusual presentation was filled with humor, witty remarks and helpful information. Our club was honored to help make this important fund raising event so successful.

We all look forward to longer days and warmer temperatures and our club is making final plans

for a narrated circumnavigation around Staten Island on May 19. Joining the National Lighthouse Museum's boat tour we will see the New York and New Jersey shorelines from a nautical viewpoint, observing everything from bird sanctuaries to ship graveyards. At press time our tour is sold out but Chair Teri Torsney has a waiting list.

Till the soil; plant the seedlings; and enjoy the wonders of spring and summer.

Bonnie Rodgers, reporting.

## The Blue Star Memorial

The Blue Star Memorial Program honors all men and women that serve in the U.S. Armed Services. This program began with the planting of 8,000 Dogwood trees by the N.J. Council of Garden Clubs in 1944 as a living memorial to Veterans of WW II and has expanded to a National system of Memorial Markers along the highway system and in other appropriate locations. The Blue Star Memorial located at Fort Wadsworth is a District One Project. Several times during the year the District Chair, Evelia Foster, together with members of First District get together for the maintenance and upkeep of the site. The location of the Memorial allows enlisted men and women in the different branches of the military to see that they are never forgotten as they enter and leave the base at Fort Wadsworth.



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## World Gardening—Water for South Sudan and DigDeep

Since 2005 your generous donations to WFSS have brought fresh clean water to tens of thousands of people transforming life in their villages. Our new project, DigDeep / Navajo Water Project, is a community - managed utility alternative that brings hot and cold running water to homes without access to water or sewer lines in Baca, New Mexico. Please continue to support the FGCNYS World Gardening Projects: Water for South Sudan and/or DigDeep. Donations can be sent to Teresa Torsney, District One World Gardening Chairman payable to FGCNYS, memo line WFSS or DigDeep.

## Book of Recognition

If you would like to honor a member by recognizing their ability and dedication to your club, you may do so by adding his/her name to the FGCNYS, Inc. BOOK OF RECOGNITION. This can be done individually or by your club. You can download a form from the FGCNYS.com website in Applications and give it to Linda Conlon, the Book of Recognition Chair for District with a check, payable to FGCNYS, Inc. for \$10. .

## Photos



Poinsettia plants placed at the Blessed Mother Grotto at Saint Joseph's Church.



Virginia Bodrate, Graceann Morawek, Lucy Bauer and Gertrude Sokolowsky at the South Shore GC Christmas Party

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## District One Gardens and Projects

**Our clubs maintain many gardens and carry out other projects around Staten Island that help beautify our neighborhoods. Below is a list of current projects being carried out by our clubs.**

### **District Projects:**

Healing Garden, Clove Road & Targee Street  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church Flower Festival, St. Paul's Avenue  
Blue Star Memorial at Ft. Wadsworth  
First District Annual Flower Show

### **Castle Manor GC**

Family Outreach at Huguenot Library  
Maintain 9/11 Manresa Council Garden  
Plant and maintain 9/11 Garden at All Saints Episcopal Church  
P.S. 37 - Landscape Project  
Maintain Blessed Mother Statute at Cedar Grove Beach

### **Great Kills GC**

Bloomingdale Park Garden - corner of Ramona Ave and Lenevar Ave.  
Restoration of Seaside Nature Park Garden at foot of Nelson Ave. A  
Annuals & small memorial garden at Seton Foundation for Learning - 850 Hylan Blvd.

### **Richmond Ever-Green GC**

Plant & maintain Amundsen Circle Park, Clarke Avenue & Amboy Road  
Silver Mount Cemetery, Victory Blvd. opposite Silver Lake Park  
Plantings at Garibaldi-Meucci Museum, 420 Tompkins Avenue  
Holiday Decorating at Garibaldi-Meucci Museum  
Provide Floral Arrangements for home for Amethyst House members  
A cornucopia of plantings in front of various fire houses  
West Brighton Housing and PS 18 Memorial Garden

### **South Shore GC**

Down Syndrome Herb, Vegetable & Flower Garden - 74 Pleasant Plains Avenue  
Damiania's Secret Garden - 74 Pleasant Plains Avenue  
Window boxes at Messiah Lutheran Church, Paul Kroon Center-199 Jefferson Blvd  
Tommy Monahan Tree & Garden, located at the Conference House  
St. Joseph's Church at Blessed Mother's Statue, Poplar Avenue

### **Staten Island GC**

Alice Austen Grave - Moravian Cemetery  
Alice Austen House Museum Grounds - 2 Hylan Blvd  
Holiday Decorations at Alice Austen House Museum  
Church of the Ascension Sept. 11 Memorial & grounds, 1 Kingsley Avenue  
Firemen's Memorial at Church of the Assumption  
Arbor Day Tree Planting at Alice Austen House Museum  
NYC Greenstreets Projects on Slosson Ave & Todt Hill Road  
Immanuel Union Church Grounds, 693 Jewett Ave

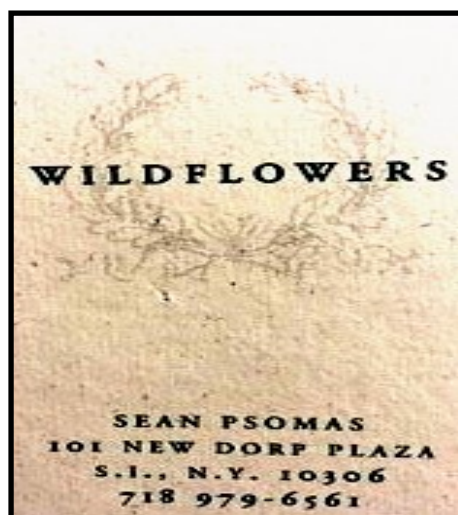


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**Please Support our Sponsors**



**EXPERIENCE & SEE WHAT OTHER TOURS MISS  
AROUND AND BACK TRAVEL**

Marisa Katurin, District II Horticultural Chair invites you to join her in touring her native country,

Italy. We carefully selected and organized our itineraries for the

**ITALIAN LAKES TO VENICE TOUR AUG. 27 - SEPT. 7, 2018**

**and**

**TOUR OF SICILY SEPT. 23 - OCT. 7, 2108**

**Our goal** is to provide our clients **memorable, special** and often

**unique itineraries** on lakes and medieval cities, visiting spectacular private gardens, enchanting

comers of Italy with its ancient sites and extraordinary art and architecture. Your experience is

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THE HEALING GARDEN  
ROSE REGISTRY



*A ROSE BUSH HAS BEEN PLANTED IN*

THE SOLDIERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST  
GERALD AND MADELINE TENEBRUSO  
JOHN OPULSKI  
MR. & MRS. HENRY SCHMIDT  
MR. & MRS. THEODORE WOYTOWICH  
PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF  
THE STATEN ISLAND GARDEN CLUB  
MEMBER OF  
THE FIRST DISTRICT FGCNYS, INC.  
CHRISTOPHER CUSACK  
ANGIE PUCCARELLI  
YETTA RICCIARDI  
WALTER MATUZA  
JEFFREY STARK  
JOHN NAVARRO  
ROSE BRUNO  
ROSE YASOSKY  
WALTER REPAGE  
ROSE (DOLLY) COMPETELLO  
EZZAT B. EL-MARAGHY  
ANGELA REVELO  
KEITH ROMA  
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICA REV-  
OLUTION  
STATEN ISLAND CHAPTER  
CIRA MARIE PATTI  
JESSIE BOUTILIER GREEN  
JAMES RUSSELL NICHOLSON, JR.  
MR. & MRS. JOHN GIORDANO  
JOSEPH L. PETELEY  
NADIA & THOMAS MURPHY  
JOSEPHINE JOHNSON  
ANDREW F. HOSIE  
FELIX DOGLIO  
ROSE YASOSKY  
FRANK BARBARINO, JR.  
KATHRYN VAN CANEGHAN  
CATHERINE CUSAK KELLY  
FRANCES DE SYLVA  
HOLY CHILD PRESCHOOL  
CAROLINE & PETER DE MONTE  
BOOTS & JACK CHRISTOPHER  
TOM GALLIGAN  
FREDRICK JACKSON

LOLA MELUSO  
FRANCIS J. RYAN  
PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS OF THE  
RICHMOND EVER-GREEN GARDEN CLUB  
MEMBER OF  
THE FIRST DISTRICT FGCNYS, INC.  
KAREN I. WOYTOWICH  
FRANCES KUDLESS  
ETHEL SMITH  
ROSEANN LORANO  
ELI GABEL  
CATERINA CERMOLA  
SUSAN BERNSTEIN  
COLLEEN MC CLOSKY  
ARTHUR T. BARRY  
JOSEPHINE MARESCA  
ALBA FONTANA  
MARIA DI MARIA  
FIREFIGHTER ANTHONY DELLE DONNE AND  
WIFE OLIMPIA DELLE DONNE  
PHILOMENA VESCIA  
JOSEPH PINTO  
ROSE WHALEN  
ALYSSA BARBERI  
BETTY PINTO  
JONATHAN HUBAND  
SALLY CIOFFI  
SALVATORE CIOFFI, SR  
JONATHAN HUBAND  
JONATHAN HUBAND  
JONATHAN HUBAND  
JONATHAN HUBAND  
JONATHAN HUBAND  
JOSEPH PINTI  
NICHOLAS SERAPICA  
IRENE TREZZA  
SYLVIA BREITBERG  
PHILIP J. GEBBIA  
ANTHONY CAPUTO  
VICKI ETTINGER  
PHYLLIS CASSETTI  
ROBERT HOSIE  
JEAN BENNETT  
JACK GOLDWASSER

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THE HEALING GARDEN ROSE REGISTRY, continued

MARY PIRAINO  
BEA NICHOLSON  
BARBARA HOSIE  
(In Appreciation)  
KATHY & JACK HOLER  
(In Appreciation)  
VIOLET HANSEN  
DAMIAN RUSSO  
BARBARA KNABE  
INGRID HOLSTEIN  
THE 26 VICTIMS  
ADULTS & CHILDREN OF  
THE SANDY HOOK ELEMENTARY  
SCHOOL  
IN NEWTOWN, CONNECTICUT  
RUDOLPH MORAWEK  
DOROTHY ETERGINOSO  
LOUISE KNEILING  
ANTOINETTE JACKSON

FIREFIGHTER ROBERT KOETH  
LEE GUGLIADA  
ELAINE DIPIETRO  
LUCY VOLLAND  
SUSAN SPERANZA  
JUDITH NUGENT  
DOUGLAS MATTHIUS  
ELVIRA MCLEES  
EVELYN MORIO  
JOHN LANGAN  
JOSEPH MORA  
RUTH DELANY  
STEVEN R, RHODES  
CATERINA POLLARI  
BENJAMIN WAYNE  
THOMAS SINGER  
MARGARET (PEGGY) GALLIGAN  
JOHN LA FEMINA

ANYONE WHO WOULD LIKE TO REGISTER A  
ROSE BUSH IN RECOGNITION OF SOMEONE SPECIAL IN  
“THE HEALING GARDEN LIVING MEMORIAL”  
MAY CALL  
CAROLYN PINTO, CHAIRMAN  
AT (718) 987-5759

**The Book Bag Project - a New FGCNYS Family Outreach Program**

Chairperson: Carol Brown

The idea for this program came from District 5 - Clinton Garden Club. They began to put book bags in their local library filled with gardening type books. Children borrowed the entire bag. Using a local printing company we created a washable book bag (see picture below). The Spring bag included a note to children and parents, two books: *The Frightened Frog* and *The Ugly Vegetables* both of which teach children about the importance of saving our environment and the fun of growing vegetables and flowers. The bag also included soil, peat pots, sunflower seeds and string bean seeds. The children kept the growing kits and returned the books. For the summer the book was changed to *Creepy Crawlers* and a magnifying glass for the kids to keep was included in the bag to encourage the children to look under rocks, leaves and around tree trunks for “creepy crawlers. There are many possibilities.



If you would like to start your own book bag program contact your local library. For additional ideas contact Lucille Bauer, 1st District Youth Chairman at 718-967-3842