

THE HIGHLAND PARK NEWS



A Publication of the Borough of Highland Park

SPRING 2013

New Public Safety Complex Represents a “New Chapter” in Highland Park

By Matthew Brian Hersh

When town and county officials gathered in front of Highland Park Police Department in October the atmosphere was celebratory, but that mood also included a sense that renovations to the 58-year-old building were long overdue.

Indeed, the Borough’s public safety building, built in 1954 on South Fifth Avenue has been patched over the years to meet the Borough’s growing public safety needs, a combination of circumstances—including ever-evolving regulations for transporting and housing detainees, critical technology updates, and providing accessibility for people with disabilities—have made the current building obsolete.

“We have a long tradition of public safety in Highland Park,” said Borough Mayor Gary Minkoff at the October 10 groundbreaking. “The fact that this project is getting done represents years of hard work and financial discipline, balanced with pragmatic planning,” he added.

Middlesex County Freeholder James Polos, a former Highland Park mayor and council member, called the building a “new chapter” in town. Polos also chairs the county’s public safety and health committee.

A Maplewood, NJ-based architectural firm The Goldstein Partnership was awarded the bid to supply the Borough with the design for the new, \$4.5 million complex in 2011. Borough Council approved a plan in spring 2012. The new, 10,000 square-foot, two-story building, built on the footprint of the current 5,000 square-foot building, will be a state-of-the-art, LEED-certified building that adheres to all Department of Correction requirements. Other features include a small solar farm built over the fire department parking lot, a sally port to properly transfer prisoners from police cruisers to the facility, a command center for emergency events, a multi-purpose room, a storage garage, lunchrooms, and office space.

Practical considerations were made as well in the building de-

sign, including lockers rooms for officers to change in and out of uniform. Formerly, officers had to change in existing office space.

While October saw the official groundbreaking, early phases of construction actually began in August. Anticipated construction timeframe is 12 to 18 months, which will include the renovation of the firehouse, the demolition of the current police headquarters to make way for the new project.

Mayor Minkoff, in a September 2012 letter to residents, said the Borough would work closely with the school district “to ensure the safety of the children” who attend Bartle School. More, until further notice, traffic on South 5th between Benner Street and Mansfield Street will be limited to one-way traffic in the south-bound direction (toward Donaldson Park).

Children walking down South 5th Avenue will be directed to use the sidewalk in front of Borough Hall and additional crossing guards will be used throughout construction. The current



student drop-off and pick-up location will not be affected.

The new building’s long-term benefits, however, outweigh potential minor, construction-related inconveniences said Polos: “This is not just about law enforcement; the building will also enhance community relations.” Minkoff described the project as continuing the “long tradition of

public safety in Highland Park.”

And while the reality of bringing the Borough’s public safety efforts into the 21st century was front and center at the groundbreaking ceremony, town officials, including Councilwoman Elsie Foster-Dublin, made clear that these improvements have long been necessary: “This day is long overdue.”

Welcome from Mayor Gary Minkoff

Thank you for taking time to read our new borough-published newsletter, The Highland Park News. Each year, the Mayor and Borough Council meet to focus on our annual goals and priorities. This year, a critical need to improve our communications was identified, and gradually, I believe we have begun addressing this issue in a substantive way.

So far in 2012, we have broadened our free Nixle text/email messaging system; if you have not already done so, I urge you to sign up for this service. You can do so by either visiting our website and sending us your email address there, or by calling the Borough Clerk’s office and giving us your email contact information. We began digitizing the videotape of our Borough Council meetings and posted it on our website in the form of YouTube videos. Additionally, we have been able to coordinate more carefully with 3rd party entities so that we can bring you information about issues that may affect, but are beyond the jurisdiction or direct control of the Borough of Highland Park. During the summer, we initiated our electronic newsletter. Out of recognition that we have so many residents who do/cannot use email, we print these updates and distribute them via the Library, Senior/Rec. Center, Borough Hall, and our Senior housing complex. Our Nixle messages, and any other pertinent information, are also posted on Facebook and Twitter.

Now, with this publication, we launch the next phase of our communications program; we hope you will find the various articles on people, programs, and services, helpful reminders, both informative and useful. Please email us to share your ideas and suggestions. Be mindful that our communications capability will continue to evolve and as it does, we will continue to find timely methods to share important information with you. I would like to thank Gayle Brill Mittler for her leadership on this tremendous effort, Monica Jackson, our employee coordinator for ensuring that postings go out in a timely manner, and our Public Information Committee, chaired by volunteer Matthew Hersh.

As this article “goes to press”—we have had a remarkably busy year even though we are only in the early Spring. We have settled one of our 2 “Mt Laurel” Lawsuits with a developer, which will produce 94 ownership units (including 12 single family homes) on what was formerly a contaminated site owned by Honeywell adjacent to Cleveland Ave and River Road. We have invested heavily in a housing rehabilitation program, enabling low and

moderate income individuals and families to upgrade at least one major home system (such as heating or air conditioning); We have just broken ground on a new Public Safety building to replace Police Headquarters and renovate a section of our Firehouse. We have hired several new police officers and promoted several others; Our Library has completed a new strategic plan, and as mentioned earlier in this article, we have made meaningful upgrades to our communications ability and we have even established the capability for you to pay your Borough tax, water and sewer bills online. Our Streetscape project is all but complete—and I hope you notice that a meaningful number of new business have come to Raritan Avenue—including Gems Galleria (jewelry), Fallout Shelter (Comics, collectibles and educational games), True North Martial Arts, Speak Music Conservatory (music instruction/performance), Century Twenty One (antiques), Front and Center (a project affiliated with the Center School involving students in crafting and furniture design, repairs and more), and Greentopia (green, organic and natural foods, vitamins, cleaners and other prod-



ucts). The Highland Park Service Center is under new ownership—and our Main Street Headquarters has relocated to larger space. Our varied restaurants continue to thrive including Sushiana (the new Kosher sushi restaurant), and The Italian Bistro which now has a lively crowd on Friday and Saturday nights enjoying open-mike Karaoke or live Jazz—and with the holiday shopping season upon us—I encourage you to shop and dine locally—I am sure you’ll have a great experience and it will further strengthen our local economy.

I look forward to reporting more good news soon—as we continue our work in creating an even better Highland Park.

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The Highland Park News
221 South Fifth Avenue
Highland Park, NJ 08904

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WHAT DEPARTMENT DO I NEED?

Main Telephone Number (732) 572-3400

ANIMAL CONTROL

(732) 777-6013

Animal Service (Dead or Stray) Weekdays

BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES

(800) 624-0241

www.state.nj.us/bpu/assistance

BOROUGH CLERK

(732) 819-3782

Apartment Registration
Birth Certificates
Condo Associations
Dog and Cat Licenses
Flood Zones (Maps)
Limousine Carts
Notary Public
Ordinances
Street Maps
Tax Map Copies (To Purchase)
Taxi Licenses
Voter Registration
Zone Maps (To Purchase)
Wetlands Map

CABLE TV

(866) 575-8000

www.cablevision.com

CODE ENFORCEMENT

(732) 777-6013

Additions (Inspections)
Capital Improvements (732) 819-3795

COMMUNITY SERVICES

(732) 819-0052

Community Events
Senior Programs, Events & Activities

CONSTRUCTION

(732) 777-6013

Additions (New)
Additions (Inspections)
Affordable Housing Construction
(732) 819-3795
Construction Permits
Decks (New)
Decks (Inspections)
Demolitions (732) 819-3795
Pool (Inspections)
Septic System (Abandonment)
Street Openings (including curbs & sidewalks)
(732) 819-3795
Tree Removal Permits

COURT

(732) 777-6010

Court
Wedding/Civil Union Ceremony by Judge

FIRE PREVENTION

(732) 819-3791

Fire Safety Complaints

HEALTH

(732) 819-3790

Property Maintenance (uncut grass)
(732) 777-6013
Health Education
Health Emergencies Weekdays
(732) 777-6013
Noise Complaints Weekdays
Public Health Nuisance
Public Pools
Rodent Complaints

LIBRARY

(732) 572-2750

www.hpplnj.org

PARKS

(732) 745-3900

Park Maintenance

PLANNING

(732) 819-3792

Development Questions
Economic Development
Subdivision Applications

POLICE

(732) 572-3800

Abandoned Cars on Street
Accident Reports (ext. 4211)
Animal Service (Dead or Stray)
Week-Ends and Evenings
Health Emergencies Weekends and Evenings
Noise Complaints Weekends and Evenings
Snow Not Removed From Sidewalks

PSE&G

(800) 436-7734

www.pseg.com

PUBLIC WORKS

(732) 247-9379

Leaf Bags
Recycling Buckets
Roadway Improvements
Snow Removal
Trees Overhanging Sidewalks, Roads
Tree Removal on Township Property
Water- Leaks, Dirty Water

RECREATION

(732) 819-0411

Recreation/Arts Programs
Registration & Information

SCHOOL

(732) 572-6990

School Information

TAX ASSESSOR

(732) 819-3787

Block & Lot
Deed Inquiries

TAX COLLECTOR – FINANCE

(732) 819-3786

Senior Citizen Taxes
Tax Bills
Veteran Taxes

VITAL STATISTICS

(732) 819-3782 or

(732) 777-6014

Death Certificates
Marriage Licenses

WATER

(732) 247-9379

Hydrant (Flow Test)
Water - Billing & Meter Reading
Maintenance Only (732) 247-9379
Billing (732) 819-3788

WATER & SEWER – FINANCE

(732) 819-3788

Sewerage Bills

ZONING

(732) 777-6013

Abandoned Cars off Street
Abandoned Structures
Additions (New)
Complaints (Property)
Driveways
Fences
Overcrowding, Illegal Multi-Family Dwellings
Pool (New)
Property Maintenance (e.g. trash, litter, weeds, uncut grass)
Sheds
Sidewalk Maintenance
Site Plan Copies
Subdivision Applications (732) 819-3792
Zoning Questions

Hurricane Sandy: A Community Responds

Much of New Jersey remains in the throes of the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy's devastation. While some Highland Park residents suffered power outages that lasted almost two weeks, we are grateful that lives and homes were not lost, as they were in other communities.

We were cold and in the dark, but as a community we banded together to help one another when in need. Here is just a sample of the role our residents and local government played in responding to community needs:

- The Mayor's daily updates and other important information were streaming from the Borough's page and website to social media sites of tuned in residents.

- Forty-six residents showed up at an impromptu volunteer meeting announced on our Facebook page to offer their services and hit the streets to distribute hard copies of our messages to residents without power. Thank you to Diane Feldman for organizing and coordinating these volunteer lists.

- Three houses of worship (Reformed Church, Highland Park Conservative Temple, Congregation Ohav Emeth) plus our Senior/Rec Center opened their doors as warming centers to all our residents.

- Our OEM team requested and received a trailer truckload of bottled water with tens of thousands of bottles of water which were distributed to any

resident in need of water (especially helpful when our water was shut off and boil water warning was in effect). Thanks to the volunteers and their children who helped hand the water bottles out from the trailer.

- Senator Barbara Buono and Assemblyman Peter Barnes were often seen in town and worked tirelessly with Mayor Minkoff to pressure PSEG to get our power back throughout town.

Moving forward, the Borough, working with municipal agencies, OEM, and residents will continue to assess emergency response mechanisms and improve upon its outreach efforts. You can share your thoughts, too, by writing HighlandParkNews@hpboro.com



Spotlight on Beth Leech, Coordinator of the Highland Park Community Food Pantry

Valeri Drach Weidmann, Special to the HP Borough Newsletter



They come twice a month on the second and fourth Thursday or Saturday. Some come alone and some with children in tow. Each family that visits the Highland Park Community Food Pantry is invited to select one basket (about two plastic grocery bags full) of non perishable foods that are stored at the Senior/Youth Center on 220 South Sixth Avenue. During the 23 weeks of the Highland Park farmers market, fruits and vegetables that have not been sold are given away for free to residents with Food Pantry ID. The produce is dispersed at the Highland Park Reformed Church.

Three hundred families visit the pantry each year, which translates to 700 people. About 140 of the families are regulars and come twice a month. The other 160 families cycle through during emergencies, when they have to choose between fixing the car they need to travel to work or buying food for the week.

The Food Pantry has about 100

casual volunteers, those that help out during the course of the year and about two dozen regular volunteers who help out every month.

For each session boxes of cereal, canned goods, peanut butter, jars of baby food, cookies, crackers, chips, bread and macaroni and cheese are moved from a small room to three large shelved closets that make the multiple purpose room at the Senior/Rec Center into a small but vital food market.

Beth Leech joined the Food Pantry in 2005 as a volunteer. The mother of two, who has lived in the borough since 1999, became the Coordinator of this growing community program in 2007 when the spot was abruptly left open.

Beth joined as a volunteer for two reasons. The professor of Political Science at Rutgers University had just received tenure in 2005 and she wanted to meet people from the community and in a non academic setting.

"I was spending most of my time at work researching and teaching and I wanted to have the chance to work for a vital community organization and a chance to meet people from Highland Park," Beth said. "Ironically, one of the things I got out of this experience was the chance to test my theories."

Beth studies how people work cooperatively and as a species actually excel at this type of interaction with their families, at work and in the marketplace. This October, Beth and her husband, Lee Cronk, a professor of Anthropology at Rutgers University, are publishing the book they have written together, *Meeting at Grand Central: Understanding the Social and Evolutionary Roots of Cooperation* (Princeton University Press).

"Working at the Food Pantry is great because I get to see first hand how people team up to help others," Beth said. "I get to see unselfish behavior on a regular basis. I get to see my theories



from research play out in real life."

Beth has watched both the need and luckily the resources grow for the Food Pantry, since it began in 2000. County, state, and federal funds as well as donations from the community at drop offs at Stop and Shop, Saiff Drugs, Borough Hall and the Senior/Youth Center help keep hundreds of people fed. Residents can also donate funds to the food pantry. The Community Food Bank of New Jersey is one of the organizations that disperses food to municipal pantries.

"Some of the most touching moments at the food pantry occur during Thanksgiving," Beth said. "People are so thrilled to get

a turkey, it's an item they could never afford and it provides a huge amount of food."

According to Beth, the people she worries about most are those she never sees.

"The people who need help the most are so reticent," Beth said. "If you need help feeding yourself or your family, we want to see you. Bring some ID or just come. We can work out the details after."

Whether you want to volunteer or you are in need of food, please contact the Highland Park Community Food Pantry at hpfoodpantry@yahoo.com or call the Highland Park Youth/Senior Center at 732-819-0052.

MUNICIPAL DIRECTORY

DIAL 1-732 BEFORE TELEPHONE #

**POLICE, FIRE & RESCUE
EMERGENCY**
DIAL 9-1-1

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Gary Minkoff (Mayor).....777-6001
Mayor & Council Secretary...819-3782

ADMINISTRATION

Kathleen Kovach
(Administrator).....819-3789

BOROUGH CLERK

Borough Clerk.....777-6014
Deputy Clerk.....819-3782
Borough Hall Fax.....777-6006

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Aging.....819-0052
Recreation.....819-0411
Fax.....819-0047

CODE ENFORCEMENT/ CONSTRUCTION

Director/Construction
Official.....819-3795
Control Person.....819-3793
Housing Inspector777-6011

FINANCE

Chief/Financial Officer.....819-3789
Water/Sewer Billing.....819-3788

HEALTH

Health Inspector.....819-3790
Secretary777-6013
After Hour Emergencies.....572-3800

FIRE PREVENTION

Fire Official.....819-3791
Fire Inspection.....777-6011
or.....819-3792

MUNICIPAL COURT

Court Administrator
& Deputy Administrator777-6010

POLICE

Police Chief.....572-3413

PUBLIC WORKS

Superintendent514-1277
Recycling/Clean
Communities.....514-1277
Fax.....247-4844
Water & Sewer514-1277

OTHER HELPFUL NUMBERS

Animal Control.....745-5016
Chamber of Commerce.....249-3375
Historians.....220-6618
Housing Authority572-4420
Library.....572-2750
Post Office.....572-6006
Tax Assessor819-3795
Tax Collector.....819-3786
Vital Statistics.....777-6014
Zoning Office.....777-6011



MAYOR GARY MINKOFF

ADMINISTRATION

- Council's liaison to the Highland Park Public Library, Shade Tree Advisory Committee, Environmental Commission and Green Community Working Group-which is now Sustainable Highland Park, as well as liaison, to Main Street Highland Park

- A member of the Highland Park Planning Board
- A Commissioner of the Highland Park Redevelopment Agency

Gary brought extensive volunteer and leadership experience to the Governing Body, including prior roles as:

- Member-Highland Park Democratic Committee
- Officer/Executive Board Member -Rabbi Pesach Raymon Yeshiva
- Executive Committee Member-Jewish Federation of Greater Middlesex County (Recipient of two awards for outstanding

leadership)

- Member of the Executive Board of the Wilf Campus for Senior Living; Executive Board of the Central New Jersey Jewish Home for the Aged and Trustee of the Foundation of the Wilf Campus for Senior Living

- Board Member-Congregation Ohav Emeth-Highland Park
- Treasurer-Cub Scout Pack 5
- Highland Park Department of Recreation Little League Baseball Coach

Gary has been a Borough resident since 1983. He is the President of Above & Beyond Marketing, which provides consulting services in the areas of sales and marketing strategy, technology, communications and education and training. He is an Adjunct Faculty member at the Rutgers Business School, and previously taught for the Rutgers School of

Communication and Information Studies, as well as for the Rutgers College of Engineering.

Gary is the Executive Director of the New Jersey Higher Education Partnership for Sustainability (NJHEPS). Prior to launching his own company, Gary spent 12 years in financial services, first with Citicorp's Investment Bank in Municipal and Corporate Finance, as well as, Sales and Marketing operations; he then joined E.F. Hutton (which ultimately became Smith Barney) and Merrill Lynch as a financial advisor. Gary began his career in management consulting-working on marketing, technology and training assignments for major clients in telecommunications, consumer products, manufacturing and media.

As Mayor, Gary chairs the Council's Administration Committee, which oversees issues such as Personnel, Communications, Professional Services, Grant seeking and Advocacy with other Public Officials and leaders in the Non-Profit, Education and Private Sector.

Prior to becoming Mayor, Gary joined the Council in 2002 and has served as:

- Chair of the Council's Finance, Economic Development and Public Works Committees; he also served on the Council's Public Safety Committee



GAYLE BRILL MITTLER

COMMUNICATIONS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

our residents, within the framework of local governmental requirements.

Gayle served as Borough Council President in 2012, and currently serves as Chair of the Council's Economic Development Committee. Specific areas of current responsibility include:

- Liaison to Redevelopment Agency
- Liaison to Zoning Board
- Liaison to Planning Board
- Liaison to Main Street Highland Park

Additionally, Gayle's commitment to improved communication throughout the Borough resulted in the formation of Highland Park's first Public Information Committee. This group has been responsible for the recent introduction of the Borough's bi-weekly E-newsletter, Facebook page, Nixle messaging, and is responsible for the *Highland Park News*. Additionally, the HPTV cable station will revamping its programming and outreach.

Other areas that Gayle has impacted include environmental, health, education, and social issues. Resolutions and ordinances she introduced include:

ENVIRONMENTAL:

- Anti-Fracking Resolution
- Resolution banning the use of triclosan products in municipal buildings

HEALTH:

- Ordinance introducing a Ban on Smoking on Municipal Property
- Resolution to educate proper usage of Turf Field at High School Ordinance making new handicap parking spaces on residential streets available to citizens

EDUCATION:

- Resolution in support of legislation requiring community input for approval of charter schools

SOCIAL:

- Resolution in support of Marriage Equality

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

- Streamlined construction application process yielding a net gain in downtown businesses in 2012.

COMMUNITY HISTORY:

- Coordinator, Central NJ for Obama, Jewish Outreach, 2008

- Vice Chair, National Public Policy/Social Action Committee, United Synagogue for Conservative Judaism (2005-2009)

- Past President, Highland Park Conservative Temple-Congregation Anshe Emeth (2003-2005)

- Past Chair, Highland Park Democratic Municipal Committee

- Publicity and Marketing Chair, Highland Park Education Foundation (1998-2000)

- Chair, Black History School Challenge Contest Fund, a 501C3 non-profit fund

- Highland Park business owner since 1995 (All Colors, LLC)

- Resident of Highland Park since 1978

Gayle Brill Mittler's two children are proud graduates of the Highland Park Public School system. She resides in Highland Park with her husband, Uri Mittler.

HIGHLAND PARK BOROUGH COUNCIL

TERM EXPIRES

NAME	POSITION	CONTACT INFORMATION	TERM EXPIRES
GARY MINKOFF	MAYOR • ADMINISTRATION	732-777-6001 • MINKOFFHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/16
GAYLE BRILL MITTLER	COUNCILWOMAN • COMMUNICATIONS, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING	732-819-3782 • BRILLMITTLERHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/14
ELSIE FOSTER-DUBLIN	COUNCILWOMAN • PUBLIC SAFETY	732-777-2179 • FOSTERDUBLINHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/15
JON ERICKSON	COUNCILMAN • FINANCE	732- 572-3640 • ERICKSONHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/14
PADRAIC MILLET	COUNCIL PRESIDENT • PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC UTILITIES	732-220-1309 • MILLETHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/15
SUSAN WELKOVITS	COUNCILWOMAN • HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES	732-754-6945 • WELKOVITSHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/16
GARY POTTS	COUNCILMAN • RECREATION & ARTS	732-745-9117 • POTTSHP@GMAIL.COM	1/1/13



PADRAIC MILLET

PUBLIC WORKS & PUBLIC UTILITIES

nearing completion. He worked closely with Council person Gayle Brill Mittler in streamlining the approval process for development throughout the Borough. He has also served on the Redevelopment Agency.

Padraic Millet is currently Borough Council President, and Chair of the Public Works and Public Utilities committees. He also serves on the Council's Economic Development Committee and the Public Safety Committee.

Padraic Millet has served on Council since his appointment in 2008 where he started his tenure as Chair of the Council's Economic Development Committee until 2012. Under his leadership, the Borough embarked on the Streetscape project that is now

When plans were set in place for the construction of our new Public Safety Building, Councilman Millet was instrumental in determining the most efficient and sustainable construction and design requirements. His experience in these areas for Rutgers University has been a great asset to our borough.

Councilman Millet resides in Highland Park with his wife and children. His son is a graduate of Highland Park schools and his daughter is currently attending.



JON ERICKSON

FINANCE

riety of teaching and academic research positions in Oregon, Texas, New York and New Jersey and now is an Associate Professor of Public Administration at Kean University, where he serves as Coordinator of the Environmental Management Option in the Masters of Public Administration program.

Born in Seattle and raised primarily on the Oregon coast, Jon came to New Jersey to go to graduate school and has stayed on. Jon has a BA and Masters in Urban Planning from the University of Oregon and a PhD in Planning and Policy Development at Rutgers. Since 1971, he has held a variety of planning and economic analyst positions in Oregon and New Jersey including stints at the New Jersey State and Local Expenditure and Revenue Policy Commission, the Public Advocate, New Jersey Future and the Department of Environmental Protection.

In addition he has held a va-

He was first elected to the Highland Park Borough Council in 2002 and currently serves as Chair of the Finance Committee and is a member of the Public Works, and Health and Human Services Committees. In the past he has also chaired the Health and Human Services, and Public Works Committees.

Jon is married to Anne Sherber and has a daughter who is a graduate of Highland Park High School and is currently attending NYU. Lastly, he is the chair of the American Federation of Teachers - New Jersey Political Action Committee.



GARY POTTS

RECREATION & ARTS

the Recreation Department. There are so many great things going on in Highland Park, and he is excited to report that the Borough is working on a fantastic Mayor's Teen Advisory Council Program that should be starting later this fall.

Gary was appointed in July 2012 to serve on the Borough Council following Jeff Morris' resignation. Following a reorganization of the Borough Council Committees, he serves as the Council Chair for Recreation and Arts, Council Liaison for the Arts Commission, Celebrations of Public Events, Council on Aging, Department of Aging, County Cultural & Heritage Commission, County Transportation, Fields Project Liaison, Municipal Alliance, Recreation Advisory Committee and

Gary is the father of two High School graduates; Jessica (2009) and Jason (2012). His wife, Cindy Potts, who died in January 2011, was very active in Highland Park with Girl Scouting as well as serving as the Treasurer for several Parent-Teacher Organizations.

Gary has been the owner and manager of the Jaqui-Kuhn Funeral Home for the past 17 years. In addition to being a licensed funeral director, he holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Rider College (now Rider University).



SUSAN WELKOVITS

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

sense of its history, she strives to protect and enhance the small town characteristics that make Highland Park a great place to live, such as our vibrant and walkable downtown, strong public schools, and unique diversity, which together make for a thriving and welcoming community.

Appointed to the Borough Council in January 2012, Susie chairs the Health and Human Services Committee, and thus, is the Council liaison to the Board of Health, Commission for Universal Access, Community Food Pantry, Housing Authority, Human Relations Commission and Mayor's Wellness Campaign. She is also Council liaison to the Library, and serves on the Finance and Economic Development and Planning Committees.

Having been raised in Highland Park and with a strong

Prior to joining Council, her volunteer efforts have reflected her level of commitment to our community. Susie was an active grass roots organizer and advocate against the charter school applications in Highland Park, and has worked with local and state officials to help pass resolutions and legislation for local control in the approval process and greater transparency of charter schools. She has been an active member and organizer with Speak Up Highland Park and Save Our Schools NJ.

Susie's professional back-

ground is as a Client Relationship Manager and Project Manager in Financial Services for more than 20 years. Her clients have included small businesses much like those that make up our vital downtown business district. Since 2001, she has maintained a NJ State Health, Disability and Life Insurance License.

Her Parents emigrated from Hungary in 1956, and moved to Highland Park when she was a child. Both Susie and her husband are graduates of Highland Park High School. About 10 years ago, she returned to Highland Park from New York City, to raise a family. Susie is the mother of twin toddlers and has organized and participated in local playgroups and children's programs.



ELSIE FOSTER-DUBLIN

PUBLIC SAFETY

of State for delegation of women from Turkey, International Visitors Leadership Program (2012)

- Guest lecture at Rutgers University History Department (2012)
- Former President of Jamaican Organization of New Jersey (2009 - 2010)
- Board member of Rutgers School of Social Work (2009 present)
- Governor Corzine Blue Ribbon
- Advisory Panel on Immigration (2007 -2009)
- National and State Manager Caribbean for Obama for President (2007 - 2008)
- Attended the Twentieth Caribbean Community Heads of Government Conference, Washington D.C. (2007)
- Facilitated the creation and launch of the Jamaican Trade Council of New Jersey (2005)
- Facilitated launch of the Jamaica Trade Council Philadelphia (2004)
- Brokered relationship with NJ State Department of Commerce to grant operating license to Jamaica National Building Society, the largest privately owned building society (bank) in the Caribbean into the state of New Jersey (2004)
- Worked with the Office of the Governor of the State of New Jersey to initiate disaster relief programs and provide disaster assistance to hurricane victims in the Dominican Republic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti and Jamaica (2004)
- Coordinated Caribbean Medical Mission's health care services for Camden, Essex and Union County residents. (2004 - 2007)
- Delivered keynote address at the First Jamaica Diaspora Convocation at the Mona School of Business, University of the West Indies Jamaica (2003)
- Planned the annual Caribbean Community (CARICOM) Standard raising ceremony in New Jersey (2003)
- Organized and participated in the Trade and Commerce delegation of the Organization of Caribbean Elected Officials. Conducted a special meeting with dignitaries from the Organization of American States (OAS) (2002)
- Partnered with Air Jamaica to host Business Exchanges and Community Relations programs for New Jersey
- Facilitated visits by many cultural exchange groups from Trinidad, Guyana, Jamaica, Barbados, and St. Kitts for performances in New Jersey

lic, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti and Jamaica (2004)

- Coordinated Caribbean Medical Mission's health care services for Camden, Essex and Union County residents. (2004 - 2007)
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- Facilitated visits by many cultural exchange groups from Trinidad, Guyana, Jamaica, Barbados, and St. Kitts for performances in New Jersey

EDUCATION

MBA, Global Management, Candidate for 2012

BS, Business Administration, BS, Human Resource Management

Women's Campaign School, Yale University, New Haven, CT

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION 2013

ADMINISTRATION MAYOR GARY MINKOFF 129 NORTH 10TH AVE (O) 732-777-6892 minkoffhp@gmail.com PADRAIC MILLET COUNCIL PRESIDENT	RECREATION AND ARTS GARY POTTS 17 SOUTH ADELAIDE AVE (H) 732-745-9117 pottsgph@gmail.com GAYLE BRILL MITTLER ELSIE FOSTER-DUBLIN	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING GAYLE BRILL MITTLER 7 ELBERT COURT (C) 908-616-7714 brillmittlerhp@gmail.com PADRAIC MILLET JON ERICKSON	FINANCE JON ERICKSON 321 MANSFIELD ST. (H) 732-572-3640 ericksonhp@gmail.com SUSAN WELKOVITS GAYLE BRILL MITTLER	HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES ELSIE FOSTER-DUBLIN 408 SOUTH 9TH AVE. (H) 732-777-2179 fosterdublinhp@gmail.com JON ERICKSON GARY POTTS	PUBLIC SAFETY ELSIE FOSTER-DUBLIN 408 SOUTH 9TH AVE. (H) 732-777-2179 fosterdublinhp@gmail.com GARY POTTS PADRAIC MILLET	PUBLIC WORKS AND PUBLIC UTILITIES PADRAIC MILLET 325 SUMMIT PLACE (H) 732-220-1309 millethp@gmail.com ELSIE FOSTER-DUBLIN SUSAN WELKOVITS
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BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR KATHLEEN KOVACH kkovach@hpboro.com 732-819-3789

BOARD OF EDUCATION CABLE TV/TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE GRANTS LOBBYING NEWSLETTER OFFICE OF PUBLIC INFORMATION PERSONNEL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES PUBLIC RELATIONS WEB SITE	ARTS COMMISSION CELEBRATION OF PUBLIC EVENTS COUNCIL ON AGING DEPARTMENT ON AGING COUNTY CULTURAL & HERITAGE COMMISSION COUNTY TRANSPORTATION FIELDS PROJECT LIAISON MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE RECREATION ADV. COMM. RECREATION DEPT.	BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT FAIR TRADE COMMITTEE MAIN STREET LIAISON MASTER PLAN LIAISON REDEVELOPMENT PLANNING BOARD* PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE STREETScape PROJECTS	CAPITAL PLANNING & PROJECT REVIEW COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT BLOCK GRANT ETHICS BOARD LIAISON FINANCE DEPARTMENT SHARED SERVICES TAX ASSESSMENT & COLLECTION	BOARD OF HEALTH COMMISSION FOR UNIVERSAL ACCESS COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY HOUSING AUTHORITY HUMAN RELATIONS COMMISSION MAYOR'S WELLNESS CAMPAIGN PUBLIC LIBRARY	COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EMPLOYEE SAFETY COMMITTEE FIRE DEPARTMENT FIRST AID SQUAD JUVENILE CONFERENCE COM. MUNICIPAL COURT POLICE DEPARTMENT PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING COMMITTEE	CLEAN COMMUNITIES LIAISON CODE ENFORCE MENT DEPT. OF PUBLIC WORKS ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION PEDESTRIAN & TRAFFIC SAFETY TASK FORCE SUSTAINABLE HIGHLAND PARK SHADE TREE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
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The Standing Committees of the Borough Council are chaired by a member of the Governing Body, and include two other members of the Council, with the exception of the Administration Committee, which is chaired by the Mayor and includes the Council President as a Member. Standing Committee members are listed in the order of their rank on the Committee. Council President serves as liaison to County, State, and Federal elected officials unless otherwise noted. * By Statute, the Mayor (Class I member) and one member of Council (Class III member) serve as members of the Planning Board. * Statutes also provide for the Mayor to serve as a member of the Library Board of Trustees and to name an Alternate when unable to attend.

BOROUGH EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR/CFO KATHLEEN KOVACH



meeting with department heads to make sure the policies of the borough are being followed and meeting with residents to resolve issues that they may have. I review the borough's policies and procedures, making recommendations and changes to the council when necessary.

As the **Chief Financial Officer** I am responsible for overseeing the borough's finances. This includes putting together the budget and filing the Annual Financial Statement and Annual Debt Statement with the NJDCA. I review the financial information making sure the borough is in compliance with the Local Budget Law, Local Bond Law and the Local Public Contracts Law. I verify funds are available for all of the borough's purchases. I review the boroughs internal controls and review the annual audit.

As the **Tax Collector**, I work closely with the deputy collector. I oversee the processing of tax payments, water & sewer payments and processing of liens.

What are some of the long term goals you have to enhance the community?

- My long term goals are:
- To continue to have a stabilized tax rate and improve the boroughs infrastructure with grants and other available funding.
 - To review the policies and procedures in each department for efficiency.
 - To continue meeting with residents so they have a better understanding of the procedures and laws of which we are governed.

Kathleen Kovach was hired in January 2007 as the CFO and Tax Collector for the Borough of Highland Park. In April of 2010 she had Administrator added to her duties.

Kathleen has been a Certified Municipal Finance Officer since 1999 and has previously worked as the CFO for the Township of East Windsor, the Township of Cranbury, and did consultant work for the Borough of Somerdale. She is a Graduate of Kean University, graduating Magna Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. Kathleen is married with two children, and resides in Monroe Township.

What is the most challenging part of your position?

The most challenging part of my position is balancing the responsibilities of each position, as well as the requirements of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs and the policies set by the Borough Council.

Give an overview of your position.

As the **Administrator** I am the liaison between the Council and borough staff. I am also responsible for the day-to-day operations of Borough Hall. This entails

2013 BOROUGH CALENDAR

FEBRUARY 2013

- 2/21/13 – Planning Board Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:30 p.m.
- 2/27/13 – Sustainable Highland Park Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 7:30 p.m.

MARCH 2013

- 3/5/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 3/6/13 – Environmental Commission Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 8:00 p.m.
- 3/14/13 – Board of Health Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:00 p.m.
- 3/14/13 – Planning Board Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:30 p.m.
- 3/19/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 3/21/13 – Planning Board Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:30 p.m.
- 3/27/13 – Sustainable Highland Park Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 7:30 p.m.
- 3/29/13 – Good Friday Observed – Borough Offices Closed

APRIL 2013

- 4/2/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 4/3/13 – Redevelopment Agency @ Borough Hall – 7:30 p.m.
- 4/3/13 – Environmental Commission Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 8:00 p.m.
- 4/11/13 – Board of Health Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:00 p.m.
- 4/16/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 4/18/13 – Planning Board Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:30 p.m.
- 4/24/13 – Sustainable Highland Park Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 7:30 p.m.

MAY 2013

- 5/1/13 – Environmental Commission Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 8:00 p.m.
- 5/7/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 5/9/13 – Board of Health Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:00 p.m.
- 5/21/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 5/22/13 – Sustainable Highland Park Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 7:30 p.m.
- 5/27/13 – Memorial Day Observed – Borough Offices Closed

JUNE 2013

- 6/5/13 – Council Meeting @ Borough Hall – 6:30 p.m.
- 6/5/13 – Environmental Commission Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 8:00 p.m.
- 6/13/13 – Board of Health Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:00 p.m.
- 6/20/13 – Planning Board Meeting @ Borough Hall – 7:30 p.m.
- 6/26/13 – Sustainable Highland Park Meeting @ Environmental Education Center – 7:30 p.m.

ALL MEETINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE, PLEASE CHECK THE BOROUGH'S WEBSITE AT WWW.HPBORO.COM FOR ANY UPDATES.

Highland Park Department of Community Services / Office of Recreation Highland Park Newsletter Information SPRING 2013

The Office of Recreation offers various programs, activities, and events throughout the year that appeal to a wide range of people throughout our community. We offer youth sports, art programs, adult sports, fitness classes, activities, and community events.

YOUTH RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

YOUTH BASEBALL / SOFTBALL DATES: APRIL – JUNE

Youth Basketball and Baseball / Softball are for children in grades K – 8. Our sports programs provide opportunities for children to develop and improve their skills while learning to be part of a team.

SPRING SOCCER CLINICS DATES: APRIL – MAY

Spring Soccer Clinics are for children in grades K – 4. This program runs for 5 sessions - girls play on Tuesdays and boys on Thursdays. The clinics are facilitated by Spencer Rockman and his Rovers trainers. This program uses enjoyable soccer games and activities, with a focus on ball skills and small-sided training games.

INTRODUCTORY TRACK & FIELD DATES: APRIL – JUNE

Introductory Track and Field is a program for boys and girls in grades 3 – 8. This program will include lessons on starts, running form, and field events, facilitated by Highland Park High School Track & Field Coaches. The sessions are held in April and May at the Municipal Recreation Complex.

INSTRUCTIONAL TENNIS DATES: SUNDAYS

*SPRING SESSION 4 WEEKS:
BEGINNING APRIL*

4-5:00pm High School and Adults
5-6:00pm Youth Grades 3-8

SUMMER SESSION 8 WEEKS: BEGINNING JUNE

7:30-8:30am High School and Adults
8:30-9:30am Youth Grades 3-8

Instructional Tennis teaches the fundamentals of tennis to participants of various ages and tennis experience. The instructor, Howard Lee, teaches experience-appropriate skills to the players and then breaks the participants into like-ability groups to practice what they have learned and play games. This program takes place at the tennis courts in Donaldson Park.

NEW! MAYOR'S TEEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Do you have great ideas? Do you enjoy improving your community?

The Mayor's Teen Advisory Committee is a new program meant to explore unique issues related to teens, better the lines of communication with teens and facilitate teen involvement in the Borough.

Currently looking for adult mentors and teens between the ages of 12 & 18 for general membership and executive committee positions.

General meetings will be held every other month in the courtroom of the municipal building.

2013 HIGHLAND PARK SUMMER CAMPS

The Borough of Highland Park presents: Discovery Day Camp and Junior Owls Sports Camp.

DAY CAMP (GRADES K-7) 7 WEEKS (MONDAY – FRIDAY), JULY 8-AUGUST 23

Pool visits, arts and crafts, music, sports, cooking, science, day trips, drama, electives, special events and much, much more.

SPORTS CAMP (GRADES 3-9) 5 WEEKS (MONDAY-THURSDAY), JULY 8-AUGUST 22

Enjoy a new sport each week; learn fundamentals and skills, play games, develop teamwork and sportsmanship. Each camper will strive to improve each day. Prizes are given each week for: Camper of the Week and Most Improved Baseball / Softball or Track, Basketball, Soccer, Wrestling or Tennis, Football or Volleyball.

TEEN RECREATION AND ART PROGRAMS

Art Class for Children (GRADES 3-5)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 6 WEEKS
(FRIDAYS 3:00PM-4:30PM)
SENIOR / YOUTH CENTER*

Participation is limited to Highland Park Residents (10 participants). The participants will focus on graphic arts, covering drawing, painting, and printing. This program is sponsored by a grant from the Municipal Alliance.

NEW! CHESS CLASS (6-12 YEAR OLDS)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 6 WEEKS
(THURSDAYS 5:00PM-6:00PM)
SENIOR / YOUTH CENTER*

Beginners and advancing beginners, learn the basics or improve your game! You will be taught by Alex Braylovskiy who has been professional chess instructor for more than 30 years. This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Middlesex County Community Development Block Grant Program.

NEW! JUGGLING CLUB (9-14 YEAR OLDS)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(SUNDAYS 4:30PM-6:00PM)
IRVING SCHOOL*

Younger children accepted if accompanied by an adult – No experience necessary. Come and learn how to juggle or simply improve your skills! Instructors will get you started and continue to fine tune your skills! This program is sponsored by a grant from the Municipal Alliance.

THEATER PROGRAM (8-13 YEAR OLDS)

ONCE PER WEEK FOR 9 SES-

SIONS, THEN EACH DAY OF THE WEEK LEADING UP TO THE PRODUCTION

This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Middlesex County Community Development Block Grant Program.

TEEN TABLE TENNIS (10 AND UP)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 8 WEEKS
(SUNDAYS) SENIOR / YOUTH CENTER*

This Program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Municipal Alliance.

YOUTH TRACK CLUB (10 AND UP)

TWICE PER WEEK FOR 6 WEEKS

The participants will train at distance running, with Coach Eric Davis – the goal being to train to run a 5K. There will be several opportunities for the participants to enter local races with their club. This program is sponsored in part by a grant from the Middlesex County Community Development Block Grant.

ADULT RECREATIONAL PROGRAMS

ADULT SOCCER (ON THE TURF)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(SUNDAYS 9:00AM-11:00AM)*

Municipal Recreation Complex

BASKETBALL – MENS (AGES 30+)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(WED 8:00PM—10:00PM) -
BARTLE GYM*

BASKETBALL – MENS (AGES 18-29)

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(TUE 8:00PM—10:00PM) –
MIDDLE SCHOOL GYM*

VOLLEYBALL

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(MONDAYS 8:00PM—10:00PM) -
BARTLE GYM*

Intermediate / Advanced Adult Volleyball

ISRAELI DANCE

*ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(MONDAYS 8:00PM—10:00PM).
ISRAELI*

Dance is a traditional dance, arising from Jewish religious and cultural celebrations that developed in the Jewish diaspora. Israeli Folk Dance combines circle dances and line dances, with dance attire usually resembling that of Eastern Europe. In large groups of people, it can be done in concentric circles, with one circle dancing inside another.

TAI CHI

ONCE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS (BEGINNER MONDAYS 6:00PM—7:00PM

INTERMEDIATE / ADVANCED



MONDAYS 7:00PM—8:00PM)

Originally developed as a form of self-defense, tai chi uses gentle movements, connecting mind and body, that can help reduce stress, increase flexibility, improve muscle strength and definition, increase energy, stamina, and agility, and increase feelings of well-being.

STEP, STRENGTH, AND BEYOND

*TWICE PER WEEK FOR 10 WEEKS
(MONDAYS AND THURSDAYS
7:00PM—8:00PM)*

Step Aerobics is a modification of Aerobics involving the presence of an elevated platform called "the step", on which a person standing can place their foot. Step Aerobics benefits the cardiovascular system, burns calories and fat, decreases overall cholesterol levels, and gives an intense workout that is lower impact, with less stress on joints.

ADULT CO-ED SOFTBALL

*GAMES WILL BE PLAYED ON
THURSDAYS AT 6:30PM AT DON-
ALDSON AND JOHNSON PARKS*

Games begin mid-April and run through mid-August. Register as a team or as an individual.

WOMEN'S SOFTBALL

*GAMES WILL BE PLAYED ON
TUESDAYS AT 6:30PM AT DON-
ALDSON AND JOHNSON PARKS*

Games begin mid-April and run through mid-August. Register as a team or as an individual.

RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

*THIS COMMITTEE MEETS ON
THE 2ND MONDAY OF EVERY
OTHER MONTH AT 7:00PM AT
THE SENIOR / YOUTH CENTER*

Special meetings are also held when needed. The purpose of the Recreation Advisory Committee is to offer suggestions and input regarding future and current programs and activities that would enhance youth and adult recreation and the quality of life for the residents of Highland Park. You are invited to attend the find out more information about this committee and becoming a member. There will also be opportunities to work on specific programs and activities in a volunteer capacity.

COMMUNITY SERVICE EVENTS

MOMMY & ME PLAYGROUP (INFANT TO 5 YEARS OLD)

DATE: Tuesdays

LOCATION: Senior/Youth Center

TIME: 9:00am to 11:00am

THIS EVENT IS FREE!

Parents and children are invited to drop by and join in singing, group play and circle time in this informal gathering every week!

For more information join the group online at <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/hpnjplaygroup>

KITE DAY "LET'S GO FLY A KITE!!!" (4-12 YEARS OLD)

DATE: May 24

LOCATION: Donaldson Park

TIME: 2:00pm

THIS EVENT IS FREE!

Must be accompanied by adult – Join family, friends, and neighbors . . . Make a kite and send it soaring!!! All materials will be provided.

Pre-registration is requested! Please call the Highland Park Office of Recreation at 732-819-0052. This program is sponsored by a grant from the Municipal Alliance.

REGISTRATION FORMS CAN BE FOUND AT

WWW.HPBORO.COM

For additional information on any of our programs, please call the Department of Community Services / Office of Recreation at **732-819-0052**

SENIOR / YOUTH CENTER
220 SOUTH SIXTH AVE
HIGHLAND PARK, NJ
08904

Department of Public Works Information

Residents are encouraged to visit the Public Works and Recycling webpage's, located under the "Departments" heading at the Borough's homepage at www.hpboro.com, where they can access collection schedules, guidelines and contact information.

2013 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

FEB. 12 (TUESDAY) LINCOLN'S BIRTHDAY

Business District, North Side & Triangle recycling collection will be Wednesday Feb. 13th

FEB. 18 (MONDAY) PRESIDENT'S DAY

Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection will be on Wednesday Feb. 20th

MAR. 29 (FRIDAY) GOOD FRIDAY

Business District & South Side garbage collection will be on Wednesday Mar. 27th

MAY 27 (MONDAY) MEMORIAL DAY

Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection will be on Wednesday May 29th

JULY 4 (THURSDAY) INDEPENDENCE DAY

South Side recycling collection will be on Wednesday July 3rd

2013 BULK WASTE COLLECTION SCHEDULE

BUSINESS DISTRICT

February 6th, Wednesday
April 3rd, Wednesday
June 5th, Wednesday

NORTH SIDE & TRIANGLE AREA

February 6th, Wednesday

April 3rd, Wednesday
June 5th, Wednesday

SOUTH SIDE

February 7th, Thursday
April 4th, Thursday
June 6th, Thursday

SNOW REMOVAL

When snow is in the forecast, the Public Works Department would like to provide some useful suggestions to assist in the department's snow removal efforts. Please keep in mind that these suggestions are designed to make the streets as safe as possible following a snow event.

- If you live on a street designated "No Parking When Road is Snow Covered", please make sure your vehicle is parked on the proper side of the street when snow is in the forecast.
- "No Parking When Road is Snow Covered" means you can no longer see the paved road, due to the presence of snow. Vehicles parked on these streets, when the pavement is snow covered, are no longer "legally parked" and are in violation of Borough ordinance.
- The parking prohibitions remain in effect after the snow has ceased until the streets have been plowed sufficiently and to the extent that parking

will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

- Park your cars in the driveway, instead of the street, when space is available. With fewer vehicles in the street, the snow can be plowed more efficiently and safely.
- Please remove all basketball hoops and other items from the street that may be damaged by snow plows during snow removal.
- It is illegal to shovel or plow snow into the roadway. When clearing your sidewalk and driveway, shovel or direct your snow blower to put the snow onto the right of way or lawn area. If you have a contractor or other person performing your snow removal, please advise them of the Borough's policies.
- When clearing out the driveway apron, it is recommended that residents wait until the snowfall has stopped and the plows have cleared the street before shoveling. This way you'll only have to shovel once and snow will not be pushed back into your apron.
- Residents may return to parking their vehicles in the street once the snowfall has stopped and the snow plowing operation has been terminated. As a rule of thumb, snow plowing generally continues approxi-

mately two to three hours after the end of a snowfall to allow for sufficient clearance of the roadway.

E-WASTE RECYCLING

E-Waste recycling is mandatory in New Jersey and is available as a drop off service to residents. Residents are required to bring their items to the DPW building, located at 444 Valentine St. between the hours of 7:00 am thru 2:00 pm., Monday thru Friday.

EXAMPLES OF E-WASTE

Computers, monitors, printers, scanners, routers, keyboards, cables, televisions, radios, phones, stereo components.

EXAMPLES OF BULK WASTE

Speakers, vacuums, toaster ovens, fans, dehumidifiers, irons, microwaves, curling irons, electric shavers, smoke detectors.

**** If you're not sure if your item is recyclable, call before you load it in your car.**

FLUORESCENT LAMPS are now accepted with E-Waste Recycling. The DPW will accept the following devices:

- **CFL's (compact lamps)** – each lamp MUST be individually packaged in a sandwich bag.
- **Tubes** – up to 8 foot length. Tubes MUST be taped in groups of the same length, in

quantities of 4 or less.

• U-Shaped bulbs

Bulbs must be intact/unbroken to be recycled. Broken bulbs (shattered, gas has escaped the bulb) may be disposed of in the regular trash.

CHOMETZ DISPOSAL

In observance of Passover, the DPW will have a truck available in the Public Works building parking lot, located at 444 Valentine St., on Monday, March 25th, for residents to dispose of leavened foods. Residents may drop off their household garbage between 7:00 am and 2:00 pm. Please note: **All** recyclable materials must be separated and **NO BULK ITEMS** will be accepted.

PAPER SHRED EVENT

The Borough, in coordination with the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste, will once again be hosting a "Paper Shredding" event on Friday, May 3rd in the parking lot of the Community Services Center, 220 S. 6th Ave., located behind Borough Hall. The event is scheduled to run from 9:00 am through 12:00 noon (or until the truck is fully loaded). This event is open to all Middlesex County residents.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night Out is a community-police awareness-raising event which is held on the first Tuesday in August each year. The event, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch, is meant to increase awareness about police programs in communities, such as drug prevention, town watch, neighborhood watch, and other anti-crime efforts. This year's event featured public safety equipment displays, refreshments, games, rides, bagpipers, and a DJ. There is no cost to anyone that attends the event.



THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE



THOMAS HAMMILL

Thomas Hammill was appointed as a Highland Park Police Officer on January 19, 1998. He graduated from the New Jersey State Police Academy on May 22, 1998. He has also earned an Associates in Arts degree from Middlesex County College.

He was assigned to the patrol division on May 23, 1998. During his time as a patrol officer, he was assigned to the Detective Bureau for a 7 month period and he also served as the police department's liaison to the Borough's Office of Emergency Management.

On June 6, 2007, Hammill was promoted to the rank of Sergeant and assigned to supervise a patrol squad. He has also assisted with the Department's computers, police radios and the equipment set-up for new police cars. Sgt. Hammill has over 30 letters of commendation in his file and received 4 Department citations.

Sgt. Hammill is also a: Certified motorcycle officer, Internal Affairs Investigator, National Night Out Organizer, & a member of the Bicycle Safety Committee Liaison.

ILAN LANCRY

Ilan Lancry was sworn in as a Highland Park Police Officer on February 15, 2000. Previously, he had served as an Investigator with the Middlesex County Sheriff's Department since August, 1995.

He was assigned to the Patrol Division until January 1, 2008, when he was assigned to the Middlesex County Prosecutor's Office on a 10 month temporary basis.

Upon his return to the Police Department on October 1, 2008, he was assigned to the Detective Bureau. He was assigned as the Officer in Charge (OIC) of that division in 2010. He has 24 complimentary letters in his personnel file and two departmental citations.

Along with his role as Officer in Charge of the Detective Bureau, Detective Lancry is also the Department's: UCR Officer Right to Know Officer, Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC Officer), & Administrator for Livescan Fingerprint system, E-Ticket, Info Cop, New Jersey Learn, and the Computer Aided Dispatch system.

Detective Lancry has also been assigned to serve as a member of the Public Safety Building Design Committee and he oversaw the acquisition of the newly acquired 800 radio system.

GAETANO PALUMBO, JR

Gaetano Palumbo Jr was sworn in at the Council Meeting on June 6, 2012. Officer Palumbo is a 2004 graduate of St John Vianney High School in Holmdel, NJ and a 2008 graduate of Stockton College where he earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice.

Officer Palumbo attended the Monmouth County Police Academy in 2010 and worked for the Long Branch Police Department as a Class II Special Officer until 2011.

Prior to being hired as a Police Officer in Highland Park, Palumbo worked as a Corrections Officer for the Middlesex County Department of Corrections.

Officer Palumbo currently resides in Old Bridge Township with his family.

RICHARD ABRAMS

Rick Abrams was appointed as a Highland Park Police Officer on June 6, 2003.

He attended the Monmouth County Police Academy and graduated on June 4, 2003. Rick earned an Associate's Degree from Brookdale Community College.

He is assigned to the Patrol Division. He has nine letters of commendation in his file.

Officer Abrams is currently one of the Department's firearms instructors and armorer.

In addition to being a Firearms instructor, Officer Abrams is also the:

Co-Supervisor of Department's Emergency Response Team

A Member of the Middlesex County Special Operations Response Team

Middlesex County Taser Instructor.

THEODORE HAAS

Ted Haas was appointed as a Highland Park Police Officer on December 18, 1990. He attended the Middlesex County Police Academy and graduated on May 17, 1991. He earned a Bachelors of Science degree in Accounting from the University of Scranton.

Officer Haas was assigned to the Patrol Division on May 20, 1991. He has 32 letters of commendation in his file. He has been a three time recipient of the St. Paul's Knight of Columbus annual award for Police Officer of the year.

On June 8, 2011, he was honored for leading the department in drunk driving arrests by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD). He also received departmental citations for helping deliver a baby and for saving an individual from a fire.

Officer Haas is also a certified Field Training Officer for the Department.



Highland Park High School's HP DECA Takes Community Involvement to a New Level

By Steve Zheng

Highland Park High School is particularly proud of one of its clubs that has stepped outside of its campus to make a difference in their community. Since the start of its involvement in the Breast Cancer Walk in 2008, Highland Park DECA, school's business club, has sent an increasing number of members to the event each year, raising over \$2500.

DECA has proven its commitment to the community with its involvement in the Adopt a Troop program. Seniors Vikki Valenta and Reyna Lopez shipped over 30 large care packages to Afghanistan for the troops in the winter of 2010. The chapter has also fundraised for Harvest of Hope, Everyone Knows Someone, and the Make a Wish programs, donating \$550, \$700, and \$1700, respectively.

Aside from volunteerism, DECA also demonstrated its activism on a local level by securing internships with local businesses for four

of its members and engaging in public relations with a large part of the community.

Community involvement isn't the only thing that has increased for the club. The number of members who achieved success in state and national level competitions has surged as well. In this school year alone, six members wrote thirty page manuals regarding various aspects of business, with five placing within the top four in New Jersey, one winning 3rd place, and another finishing as 2nd. Two teams also placed first in the state for the Virtual Business Challenge Retailing event and one team even qualified for the international competition in Utah. Overall, nineteen students qualified for the state competition this year, and nine students headed out to Salt Lake City for the international conference.

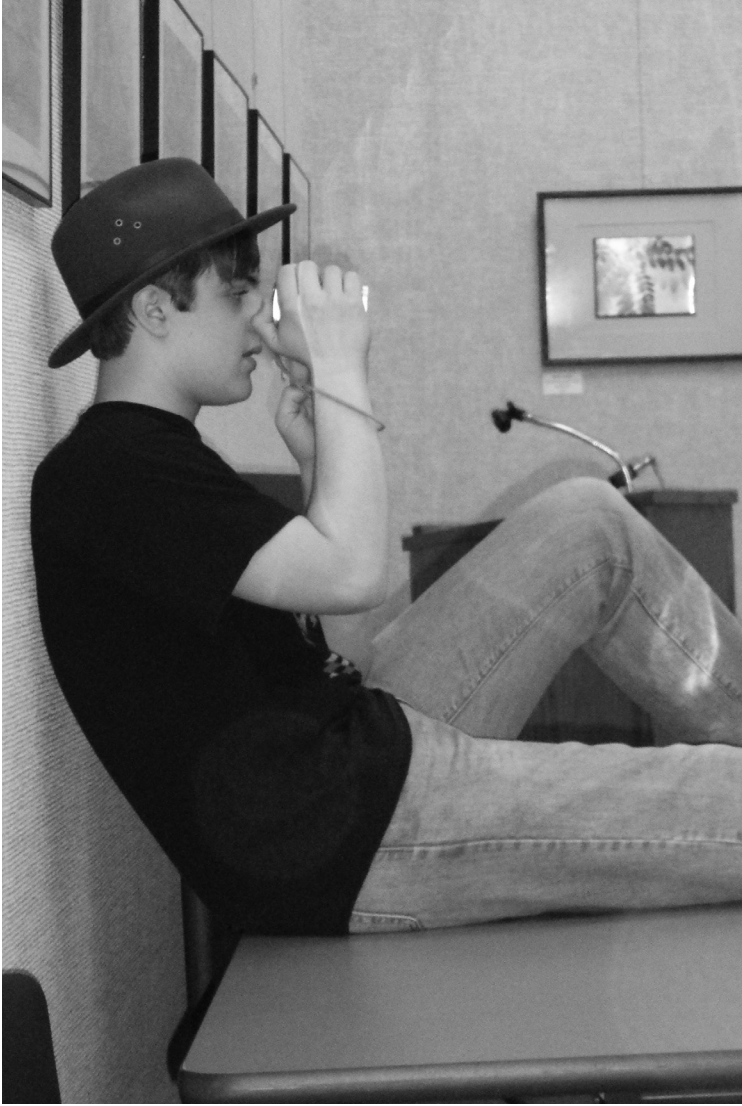
Let's just wait and see if DECA can take its success to a new level in 2013.



HIGHLAND PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

A MESSAGE FROM JANE STANLEY, DIRECTOR OF THE HIGHLAND PARK PUBLIC LIBRARY

This Spring we have added many exciting programs at the library and also many new electronic applications that have expanded our services to your home. By visiting our website at www.hpplnj.org you can learn a new language with Mango Languages, download free ebooks and audio books from eLibrary NJ, and access a number of data bases to support job searches. You can even access your library account with your smart phone at hppl.boopsie.com. We look forward to seeing you at the library for film series, informative talks, author signings, poetry readings, parent programs, events for children, teens, and concerts for every age group. Each month we feature different artists in our meeting room and display cases. Don't forget to check out selections of books, DVDs, magazines, and journals. Computers, the Internet and WiFi are all available.



ADULT PROGRAMS

The Film Series, Poetry Night readings and Concerts are all sponsored by the Friends of the Library.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 6:30 PM

FILMS FROM THE 1950S – BAD DAY AT BLACK ROCK (1954)

Directed by John Sturges and starring Spencer Tracy and Robert Ryan. One hour, 21 minutes. Film and discussion hosted by Film Historian Dr. Robert Knoll.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 7:00 PM

THE IDEAL OF LOVE – A VALENTINE'S DAY TALK

Join us for a Valentine's Day talk. David A. Beardsley, author of *The Ideal in the West*, will discuss what the great Western thinkers had to say about love. The Highland Park resident teaches a course on Western Philosophy at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute at Rutgers.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 17, 2:00 PM

AN AFTERNOON OF SONG WITH ROBERT KNEE

In terms of composition, Robert composes ballads, show music, and other popular genres that are accompanied by beautiful lyrics written by his wife and muse. Some of his influences have been Gershwin, Rogers, Hart, and Sondheim. Helene Knee, his wife

writes his lyrics.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 7:00 PM

AUTHOR TALK WITH NICHOLAS DIGIOVANNI

Nicholas DiGiovanni, novelist, essayist, and journalist, has modernized Washington Irving's classic *Tale, Rip Van Winkle*. The Highland Park resident will talk about his novel and how he came to publish this story.

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 7:00 PM

CITIZEN WORKSHOP

Debby Alter, Director of Immigrant and Refugee Services at Jewish Family & Vocational Services of Middlesex County will discuss: Citizen eligibility requirements, where, when and how much it costs to file your application, review of the Citizenship application, citizenship test preparation, what happens at the interview, what to do when your application is lost or delayed, advocacy at the Newark Service Center, and filing petitions for you family abroad.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 7:00 PM

FOLK MUSIC WITH THE HIGHLANDERS

The popular Highlanders will perform an evening of folk music. Patty Fox, Deb Convey, Sheila Shukle, Dan O'Donnell and Jonathan Austin play a combination of stringed and keyboard instru-

ments that conjure up your favorite folk memories and might make some new ones.

SUNDAY, MARCH 3, 2:00 PM

AN EVENING OF IRISH CELTIC MUSIC WITH BROSNA

Jeffrey Zajac and other musicians bring us the instruments and sounds of this melodic music.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 6:30 PM

FILMS FROM THE 1950S – NIGHT OF THE HUNTER

The film draws on the true story of Harry Powers, hanged in 1932 for the murders of two widows and three children in Clarksburg, West Virginia. Directed by the legendary Charles Laughton, starring Robert Mitchum and Lillian Gish. Film and discussion hosted by Film Historian Dr. Robert Knoll.

TUESDAY, MARCH 12, 7:30 PM

POETRY NIGHT SERIES WITH MARK DOTY

Poet Mark Doty has written 12 books of poetry and three memoirs. **Fire to Fire: New and Selected Poems**, published in 2008 won the National Book Award for Poetry in that year. In 1995 His collection, **My Alexandria**, won the T.S. Eliot Prize for Poetry, the first American poet to do so. The book was also honored as a finalist for the National Book Award, winner of the 1993 Los Angeles Times Book Prize for Poetry, and the National Book Critics Circle Award. An open mike will follow the reading.

THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 7:00 PM

ORIGAMI WORKSHOP FOR ADULTS

The kids are doing it and having fun, now it's time for you to have your turn! Artist and teacher Shelley Phillips will demonstrate how to create origami works of art for adults. To register call the library at 732-572-2750 or visit the front desk.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 6:30 PM

INTERNATIONAL FILM SERIES – MONSIEUR LAZHAR

Bachir Lazhar, an Algerian immigrant, is hired to replace an elementary school teacher who died tragically. While the class goes through a long healing process, nobody in the school is aware of Bachir's painful former life; nor that he is at risk of being deported at any moment. Adapted from Evelyne de las Cheneliere's play, this French Canadian film depicts the encounter between two distinct worlds and the power of self expression. One hour, 34 minutes.

TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 6:30 PM

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL – SALMON FISHING IN THE YEMEN

Ewan McGregor and Emily Blunt

star alongside Oscar nominee Kristin Scott Thomas and Amr Waked in this extraordinary, beguiling tale of fly fishing and political spinning. Unexpected heroism and late blooming love make the impossible, possible. Based on Paul Torday's acclaimed novel by the same title.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 7:00 PM

RICK BLACK HAIKU BOOK PRESENTATION - NICK VIRGILIO: A LIFE IN HAIKU

Nick Virgilio, who started writing in the 1960s and was a pioneer of American haiku poetry, penned some of this country's most elegant and memorable haiku.

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 7:30 PM

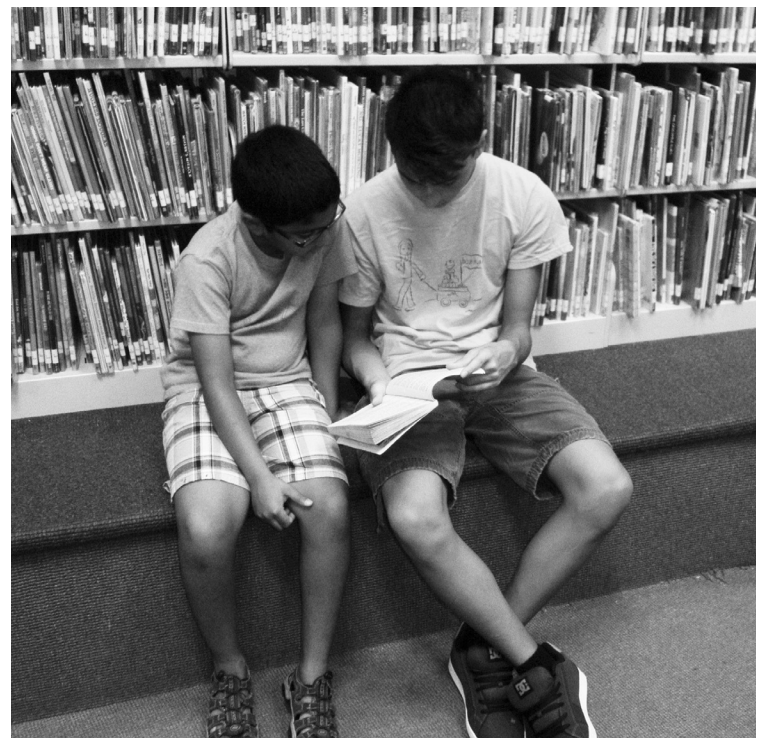
POETRY NIGHT SERIES – GAIL FISHMAN GERWIN

Gail Fishman Gerwin is a poet and playwright who lives in Morristown, New Jersey. Her work has appeared in *Lips, U.S. 1 Worksheets, Cutthroat Online, Caduceus, The American Voice in Poetry, and the Paterson Literary Review*. Gail earned honorable mentions in the 2008, 2009, and 2010 Allen Ginsberg Poetry Awards and her poetic memoir, *Sugar and Sand*, was a finalist for the 2010 Paterson Poetry Prize. Currently, Gail is preparing a second collection of poetry. An open mike follows the reading.

TUESDAY APRIL 2, 6:30 PM

FILMS FROM THE 1950S - THE SEARCHERS (1956)

Based on a true story about a Comanche raid on a Texas family, an uncle, Ethan Edwards (John Wayne), searches for his niece who was kidnapped. With his nephew Martin (Jeffrey Hunter), who is 1/8 Indian, Ethan's hatred is threatening to his niece who has become assimilated to her new culture. Martin becomes uncertain whether Ethan plans to rescue the niece or kill her. Much



CONTACT

Valeri Drach Weidmann
732-572-2750

LOCATION

31 North Fifth Avenue
Highland Park, NJ 08904
www.hpplnj.org

HOURS

WEEKDAY OPENINGS

Monday 10:00 – 9:00

Tuesday 10:00 – 9:00

Wednesday 10:00 – 5:00

Thursday 10:00 – 9:00

Friday 10:00 – 5:00

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Saturday

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM

February 9, February 23,

March 9, March 23, April 6,

April 20, May 4, May 18, June

1, June 15, June 29

Sunday

1:00 PM – 5:00 PM

February 9, February 23,

March 9, March 23, April 6,

April 20, May 4, May 18, June

1, June 15, June 29

HOLIDAY CLOSINGS

Tuesday, February 12

Lincoln's Birthday

Monday, February 18

President's Day

Friday, March 29

Good Friday

Sunday, March 31

Easter Sunday

Monday, May 27

Memorial Day

Thursday, July 4

Independence Day

has been written about this iconic western set after the Civil War including an essay from novelist Jonathan Lethem. Directed by John Ford. 2 hours.

TUESDAY, APRIL 30, 7:00PM

AN EVENING OF OPERA WITH NICHOLAS HAY

Nicholas Hay is an operatic bass from Highland Park, NJ and is returning to the library after a command performance in January. Mr. Hay started singing at a young age and has not looked back since. Mr. Hay's roles include Zuniga in "Carmen", Don Fernando in "Fidelio", Antonio & Bartolo in "Le Nozze di Figaro", Peter Quince in "A Midsummer Night's Dream", the Second Armed Man in "The Magic Flute", and Angelotti in "Tosca" to name a few. Mr. Hay has appeared with The Opera Company of Philadelphia, The Baltimore Opera Company,

dell'Arte Opera Ensemble, the Peabody Opera Theatre, and The Opera Festival of New Jersey.

SATURDAY, MAY 18 & SUNDAY, MAY 19, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

Friends of the Library Book Sale

TUESDAY, MAY 7, 6:30 PM

FILMS FROM THE 1950S – SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS (1957)

In this classically dark theater story, Broadway gossip columnist J.J. Hunsecker, coerces unprincipled press agent Sidney Falco, into destroying the romance between an up and coming jazz musician and his beloved sister. Starring Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis. Directed by Alexander Mackendrick.

TUESDAY, MAY 21, 6:30 PM

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL - AS IT IS IN HEAVEN

Nominated for Best Foreign Film at the 2005 Academy Awards, the Swedish film is the story of Daniel, a successful international conductor who returns to his childhood village. When he is asked to lead the local church choir, nothing is ever the same.

TUESDAY, MAY 28, 7:30 PM

POETRY NIGHT SERIES – KAREN SCHMIDT

Lauren Schmidt's poems have been published or are forthcoming in The Progressive, Alaska Quarterly Review, New York Quarterly, Rattle, Nimrod, Fifth Wednesday Journal, Ekphrasis Journal, Wicked Alice and other journals. Her chapbook, The Voodoo Doll Parade (Main Street Rag), was selected as part of the 2011 Author's Choice Chapbooks

Series. Her first full-length collection, Psalms of The Dining Room (Wipf & Stock) is forthcoming. An open mike will follow the reading.

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 6:30 PM

FILMS FROM THE 1950S - SOME LIKE IT HOT (1959)

When two Chicago musicians witness the St. Valentine's Day massacre, they want to get out of town and away from the gangster responsible. The only job they can find is in an all girl band heading to Florida. Joe and Jerry show up as Josephine and Daphne, the replacement sax and bass players. One of the funniest films ever directed by Billy Wilder and starring Marilyn Monroe, Jack Lemmon and Tony Curtis.

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2:00 PM

PROHIBITION GANGSTERS – THE RISE AND FALL OF A BAD GENERATION (RUTGERS UNIVERSITY PRESS) AUTHOR TALK AND BOOK SIGNING WITH MARC MAPPEN

Master story teller Marc Mappen applies a generational perspective to the gangsters of the Prohibition era, men born in the quarter century span from 1880 to 1905, who came to power with the Eighteenth Amendment. Today the names of these young men, Al Capone, Lucky Luciano, Dutch Schultz, Legs Diamond, and Nucky Johnson are more familiar than ever because of such cable programs as Boardwalk Empire. Marc Mappen, PhD, teaches a Rutgers University. He is coeditor of the award-winning Encyclopedia of New Jersey and author of Jerseyana: The Under-side of New Jersey History. He has written articles for the New York Times, the Los Angeles Times,

Rutgers Magazine and other publications. Mappen has appeared on the History Channel and National Public Radio.

TEEN PROGRAMS

For more information contact Karen Mitchell, Teen Librarian at 732-572-2750 or kmitchell@hp-plnj.org

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2013 AT 3:00 PM

CRAFTS FOR TEENS

Make one of a kind jewelry.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 3:00 PM

BOOK LAUNCH PARTY FOR WHY MY LOVE LIFE SUCKS

Highland Park author Shevi Arnold recently published a humorous teen romance, *Why My Love Life Sucks*. Everyone is invited to her book launch. The story follows Gilbert Garfinkle, a geek with a serious crush on the girl of his dreams. The fun begins when he is bitten by a vampire before he can confess his feelings to his love interest. What is Gilbert to do when the illogical happens to the world's most logical geek? Enjoy snacks, a book signing, and create a story generating craft.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 3:00 PM

AFTER SCHOOL GAMES

Play your favorite board games at the library.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2:00PM

SIXTH ANNUAL TEEN FILM FESTIVAL

Enjoy films created by Highland Park teens. From writing a script, to casting, to filming, film club members have created docu-



mentaries, features, and animated shorts throughout the year.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS

For more information contact Fran Lee, Coordinator of Children's programming at 732-572-2750 or franlee@hpplnj.org

WEDNESDAYS, FEBRUARY 6-MARCH 6, 10:15 AM

NURSERY RHYME TIME

For Children 6 – 24 months– Songs, rhymes and stories for the very youngest accompanied by an adult. Children will be exposed to a variety of manipulative objects such as shakers, bells, sticks and scarves. For children 12-24 months.

TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 5 – MARCH 5, 10:30 AM OR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6 – MARCH 6, 11 AM

TNT (Twos & Threes) – Please register for only one session. Stories, crafts, songs and rhymes for 2-3 year olds accompanied by an adult.

TUESDAYS, FEBRUARY 5 – MARCH 5, 2:30 PM

BOOK BREAK

Songs, stories, crafts for 4-5 year olds. Registration is required.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 3:30 PM

HOOT HANDICRAFT

Give a hoot and create an owl at the library. Registration is required. For children in grades kindergarten – 5th grade.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 3:30 PM

WHIRLIGIGS IN FLIGHT

Create a simple whirligig and see whose twirls the best. Registration is required. For children in grades kindergarten -5th grade.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO: About Main Street Highland Park, Inc.

Main Street is a private, non-profit community and economic development group, founded in 2002 to support and strengthen our downtown. We apply the Main Street™ four-point approach, developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation to revitalize traditional downtowns.

THE FOUR POINTS TO IMPROVE A DOWNTOWN ARE

1

DESIGN

Enhancing the appearance and usability of the district through public art, street clean-ups, traffic and parking management, building design, and streetscaping.

2

ORGANIZATION

Maintaining the cooperative structure, well represented and funded, by residents, merchants, property owners, community groups and government.

3

ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION

Developing long-term commercial solutions by sharpening merchant competitiveness, recruiting new businesses, and creatively re-utilizing historical properties.

4

PROMOTION

Enticing shoppers, investors, residents, and visitors to the downtown through festivals, retail events and image improvement campaigns.

MAIN STREET HIGHLAND PARK – SEE MORE ON PAGE 14

HIGHLAND PARK

The Destination for Holiday Dining

You've spent the day shopping up and down Raritan Avenue. You've purchased wonderful gifts for your friends and family, and maybe found something special for yourself. Now, it's time to eat, and you're in the perfect place for International Dining: Highland Park.

Over the past few years, Highland Park has developed a reputation for international cuisine. And the range of international cuisine on Raritan Avenue has rapidly expanded, giving you a global variety of eateries to choose from in downtown Highland Park.

From the Mediterranean to the near east, the Middle East, far east and our own Northeast; Kosher offerings from American to Chinese, to sushi; to South America and beyond. Whether it's lunch or dinner you're after, spin the globe, you're sure to find a winner in Highland Park.

Highland Park Department of Community Services/ Office on Aging

The Senior /Youth Center serves as a meeting place for local senior citizens. It offers a wide variety of social, recreational, and educational activities daily for the benefit and enjoyment of Highland Park seniors.

TRIPS

SANDS CASINO TRIP BETHLEHEM, P.A.

DATE Tuesday, February 5th, 2013

TIME 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.

FEE \$35.00 (You will receive a \$20.00 slot play voucher and a \$5.00 food voucher upon arrival)

You can always find a thrilling new adventure playing the slots at the Sands Casino. Everyone attending this trip MUST have a valid government issued photo ID card with you. **Open to All.**

NJ FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW TRIP

DATE Friday, February 15th, 2013

TIME 10:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

FEE \$10.00 (Seniors 65+) \$15.00 (Adult) Admission paid at door. (\$3.00 Transportation fee).

At the New Jersey Flower & Garden Show, expect rivers of color and fragrance in beautiful display gardens, sit in on seminars and shop 'til you drop in the Great Garden Marketplace. The New Jersey Flower Show attracts over 25,000 flower and garden enthusiasts annually, highlighting fabulous display gardens, a Standard Flower Show presented by the Garden Club of New Jersey, the Garden Marketplace, top-quality seminars and so much more!

HUNTERDON HILLS PLAY- HOUSE DINNER THEATRE

DATE Monday, March 11th, 2013

TIME 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

FEE \$65.00 (Includes theatre ticket, full course meal with dessert and transportation)

Enjoy an afternoon of Hilarious Comedy! "Butterflies are Free" This wonderful show is loaded with laughs and is sure to leave you smiling for weeks! Please stop by the Senior/Youth Center for more details on meal choice and show information. **Space is Limited, Sign Up Early!**

HISTORIC SMITHVILLE AND VILLAGE GREENE

DATE Thursday, April 25th, 2013

TIME 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

FEE \$15.00

Spend a nice spring day in the Historic town of Smithville. Browse the many quaint shops and enjoy lunch at one of the restaurants or feel free to bring along a lunch and sit outdoors.

ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

DATE TBA -May 2013

TIME 8:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.

FEE \$35.00 (you will receive slot change/vouchers upon arrival in AC)

CASINO TBD

Join us on one of our popular casino trips! Try your luck, shop, or stroll the Boardwalk. Everyone

attending this trip MUST have a valid government issued photo ID card with you. **Open to All.**

WEDNESDAY TRIP SCHEDULE

February 6: Wal-Mart/Panera Bread (North Brunswick)

February 13: Woodbridge Center/Charlie Brown's Steakhouse

February 20: K-Mart/Pathmark (East Brunswick)

February 27: Super Stop & Shop/K-Mart (Rutgers Plaza- Somerset)

March 6: Wal-Mart/Red Lobster (Piscataway)

March 13: Brunswick Square Mall/Ruby Tuesday's (East Brunswick)

March 20: Kohl's, Target & Hobby Lobby (Hadley Mall)

March 27: Pathmark / TJ MAXX / Hometown Buffet (Wick Plaza-Edison)

Sign-ups can be made on the 1st day of each month for trips within that month. (If the first day falls on a weekend/holiday, sign ups may be made on the day before) Stop by the Senior/Youth Center for our monthly Wednesday Trip Schedule & listing of our special trips to Broadway shows, Atlantic City trips, overnight excursions and much more through out the year!

SPECIAL TRIPS

OCEAN CITY, MARYLAND

DATE May/June 2013

TIME TBA

FEE \$349.00 per person (Based on double occupancy)

Start your summer by taking a trip with us to Ocean City, Maryland. This 4 Day/3 Night trip includes: Round-trip motor coach transportation, 3 nights motel accommodations, 3 full breakfasts, 2 dinners including: An evening of entertainment at the Ocean City Jamboree, guided tour of Assateague Island and Delmarva Discovery Center in Pocomoke City, MD, Shopping at Tanger Outlets, (3) Ocean City Casino's, Enjoy Ocean City's Beach & Boardwalk & much much more... If interested, please stop by the Senior Center or call (732) 819-0052 for complete details. **Open to All.**

VERMONT TRIP

DATE Sept/Oct

TIME TBA

FEE \$419.00 per person (Based on double occupancy)

This 4 Day/3 Night trip includes: Round-trip motor coach transportation, 3 nights motel accommodations, 3 full breakfasts, 3 dinners, Tour of Ben and Jerry's Ice Cream Factory with ice cream tasting, Tour of the Vermont Teddy Bear Factory, Tour of the Sugarbush Cheese & Maple Farm, a visit to the town of Woodstock and Quechee Gorge Village, visit

local historical sites. Enjoy beautiful views of fall foliage and much more! If interested, please stop by the Senior Center or call (732) 819-0052 for complete details. **Open to All.**

PROGRAMS

CAREGIVERS SUPPORT GROUP

DATE 4th Wednesday of Each Month

TIME 11:00 am – 12:00 noon

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Please join our group for the opportunity to meet other caregivers, exchange information and increase your care giving knowledge. Our professionally facilitated group focuses on a range of topics relating to the care giving experience, and provides an emotionally supportive and confidential environment in which to share with peers.

PAINTING CLASS

DATE Every Friday

TIME 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

Stop by the center every Friday morning for an hour of painting with Susan. Instruction and materials provided.

BODY RECALL

DATE Monday's, Wednesday's & Friday's – Winter/Spring Sessions

TIME (Session 1) 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. (Session 2) 10:00 am to 11:00 am

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE \$1.00 per class

Body Recall is a lifetime fitness program to restore and maintain posture, flexibility strength, balance & endurance. 45 minute classes that meet 3 times per week (Monday, Wednesday & Friday) 10 week session (30 classes).

LEARN HOW TO DANCE

DATE TBA – Starting this Spring!

TIME 2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE \$10.00 per class

Have you ever wanted to learn how to dance? Learn the Waltz, Foxtrot, Cha-Cha-Cha, Rumba & Hustle in a 6 week session. **Open to All.**

PIANO INSTRUCTION

DATE Every Tuesday

TIME 11:00 a.m.

LOCATION Senior Center

FEE FREE

Have you ever wanted to learn to the play Piano or touch up on your Piano skills? Join our Choral Instructor Gwen Cerasoli as she gives personal instruction. By appointment only advance sign – up is required.

ACT OUT!

DATE Friday's (10 Week Session)

TIME 1:30 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

Join us for this new and exciting program! A fun and creative 10 week Drama Program for Adults with Disabilities. Includes: Drama warm ups, improvisation and scene study led by well -known teacher Debra Orenstein. Sponsored by the Highland Park Commission for Universal Access, a Community Development Block Grant from Middlesex County, and in collaboration with VSA New Jersey.

THEATER PLAY READING PROGRAM

DATE Every Other Thursday - Beginning Thursday, February 7th

TIME 10:00 a.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

New Senior Program! Screen readings from well - known comedy and drama plays. No experience necessary. **Open to All.**

ELDER WISDOM

DATE Thursday & Friday Mornings (Sept 2012 –May 2013)

TIME 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION Highland Park Reformed Church

Who Is My Neighbor?, Inc. is seeking to enhance the intergenerational experience of the "Cubs in the Cave" program, serving infants thru 4 years of age and their caregivers, by including the senior population. Any senior interested in reading to children and seniors who can "bring a story to life" are greatly encouraged. Please contact office for more details. Transportation will be provided.

PODIATRIST

DATE 2nd Thursday of each month

TIME 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Dr. Varun (Ben) Gujral provides foot & ankle care on-site at the Senior Center. Treatment is non-invasive care in an effort to keep our senior community healthy and active for a better quality of life. These treatments will include nail care, foot & ankle evaluations, diabetic care, and skin care. If you have any questions or to schedule an appointment, please contact the Highland Park Senior Center at (732) 819-0052.

MASSAGE THERAPY

DATE Monday's – once per month

TIME 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon (10 minute session per person)

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

Check Center for monthly listings.

PRESENTATIONS

PORTION DISTORTION

DATE Monday, February 25th

TIME 1:30 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Join us for a presentation hosted by Lori Morell from Parker Center for Health & Wellness. "Portion Distortion" is a presentation about the misconceptions of overeating, and making healthy choices. Learn about long term effects of a poor diet and explore ways to make food choices to reduce your sodium levels and muscular inflammation, control blood sugar & support a healthy heart.

LUNCH & LEARN PRESENTATION

DATE Friday, March 8th

TIME 11:30 a.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Special Guest speaker Jackie Silvers, Community Liaison for JFK Health System will give a presentation on Senior Safety and enjoy a delicious lunch.

WISDOM BEHIND THE WHEEL SAFETY PROGRAM

DATE Spring - TBA

TIME TBD

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

This is a conversational- style program sponsored by the Motor Vehicle Commission aimed at drivers 65 and older that cover a wide range of topics such as sharing the road, adjusting driving habits, the effects of aging, safe driver courses, pedestrian safety and general vehicle care. This is program designed to help mature drivers make wise decisions and remain safe on the road.

Educational and Health related programming is offered each month at the center. Check monthly calendar for program topics. Light refreshments and information material provided.

SENIOR LUNCHEONS & PARTIES

FEBRUARY CHINESE NEW YEAR CELEBRATION & VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

DATE Wednesday, Feb. 13th

TIME 12:00 noon

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Come out to Celebrate Valentine's Day & The Chinese New Year with your friends. Enjoy a delicious lunch sponsored by Highland Park's Sultan Wok and live musical entertainment by Patti Maloney accomplished singer/songwriter.

MARCH SENIOR LUNCHEON & SAINT PATRICK'S DAY CELEBRATION

DATE Monday, March 18th

TIME 12:00 noon

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center
Join us at our monthly lunch to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with a traditional Irish lunch. Don't forget to wear green! Guest Speaker: TBA

APRIL SENIOR LUNCHEON

DATE Monday, April 22nd

TIME 12:00 noon

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center
Join us for a luncheon to celebrate the Spring Holidays. Special Entertainment Provided: TBA

MAY SENIOR LUNCHEON

DATE May 2013 - TBA

TIME 12:00 noon

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center
Join us for a celebration in Honor of our Mother's & Grandmother's. Guest speaker / entertainment: TBA

ANNUAL SENIOR (CITIZEN) PROM: DANCING UNDER THE STARS

DATE Thursday, June 6th

TIME 5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

Join us for an evening you will never forget! Sponsored by: The Highland Park Municipal Alliance & Department of Community Services Office on Aging. Dance the night away at the event everyone waits for all year long! Enjoy a candlelit dinner with a sparkling cider toast, dessert, music, dancing, voting of the 2013 Prom King and Queen and much more... **Pre-registration is required.**



SPECIAL PROGRAMS

UNITED WAY FREE TAX PREPARATION & ASSISTANCE

DATE Every Wednesday, Starting February 6th – April 10th

TIME 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center
United Way is providing free tax assistance to seniors. For more information or to schedule an appointment, please stop by the office or call (732) 819-0052. It is required to schedule an appointment in advance.

90'S BIRTHDAY BASH & LUNCHEON

DATE Thursday, May 16th

TIME 11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION Piscataway Senior Center

FEE FREE

Celebration & Luncheon sponsored by the Middlesex County Department on Aging. A recognition event for seniors celebrating their 90th plus Birthday. Seniors attending may bring one guest to accompany them. Advance sign up is required. Transportation will be provided.

SENIOR HEALTH & FITNESS WEEK – WELLNESS DAY EVENT

DATE Monday, May 20th, 2013

TIME 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

Middlesex County's Senior Health & Fitness week will be May 20th – May 24th

Stop by the Highland Park Senior Center on May 20th and check out all the fitness, exercise and dance programs that our Center has to offer! Meet the instructors, watch demonstrations, pick up informational handouts & register for a class. Also enjoy a complimentary Dance Class! Join us for healthy snacks, giveaways, and so much more! **Advance Sign Up is Required.**

SPRING DANCE SOCIAL

DATE TBA

TIME 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE FREE

Sponsored by: Rutgers University Panhellenic Council. Join your friends from Rutgers as they return for another afternoon of dancing and musical entertainment. Light refreshments will be provided.

MOVIE MONDAYS

DATE Monday's, Feb. 4th & Feb. 11th and Monday's, March 4th & March 25th

TIME 1:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Come by the Center to watch newly released films and old classics on a large screen TV. Popcorn provided! Check the Center for monthly film schedule.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY PROGRAM

DATE Tuesday, February 19th & 26th (2 part course)

TIME 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE \$12.00 for AARP member's \$14.00 non members. Payable to instructor at time of class.

AARP will conduct a driver safety program, which allows participants to deduct 2 points from their license and receive a 5% discount on car insurance. You must attend both days to receive these benefits. If interested, please contact the center. Space is limited... **Sign Up Early.**

SOAP MAKING WORKSHOP

DATE Friday, March 22nd

TIME 1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

FEE \$8.00

Back by popular demand... Soap Making! Don't miss out on the fun! Sign up for these fun & creative group projects. Stop by the center for a listing of upcoming projects. All supplies will be included.

KARAOKE AFTERNOONS

DATE Friday, Feb. 15th & Friday, March 15th

TIME 2:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Join us for an afternoon of music and fun as we sing Karaoke to our favorite songs!

AFTERNOON TEA & DISCUSSION GROUP

DATE Feb. 22nd, March 20th & April 10th

TIME 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

Join us each month, as we enjoy tea samplings from around the world & engage in. Lively discussion. Please bring your favorite tea cup with you! Refreshments Provided.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE

DATE Monday, May 27th

TIME 11:00 a.m.

Sit along Raritan Avenue and enjoy the parade, while supporting our past and present Veterans! Parade starts in New Brunswick and continues down Raritan Avenue ending at the Highland Park Doughboy Monument. Enjoy complementary hot dogs and refreshments afterward in the parking lot of Bank of America.

RED HAT SOCIETY

DATE TBA

TIME TBA

LOCATION Senior/Youth Center

New Group Forming – Red Hat Ladies of the Highland Park Senior Center. Calling all mothers, grandmothers, and daughters of society. Little girls grow up, but they're never too old to play dress-up and have tea parties! Stop by the office if you are interested in starting a new chapter of this world wide group.

FRIDAY COMPUTER CLASS SCHEDULE

DATE Friday, Feb. 1st - Excel

Friday, Feb. 15th - Word

Friday, March 1st - Basic

Friday, March 15th - Internet

TIME 10:30 a.m. - noon

Computer classes given twice per month. Check Center for Monthly listing.

FYI- FOR YOUR INFORMATION

INFORMATION ON REGULAR PROGRAMS

Monthly calendars are available at the Senior/Youth Center. See Calendar for days and times of regularly scheduled programs.

• **Programs underlined and bolded** on the calendar re-

quire pre-registration.

• You may register for individual programs by calling the Senior/Youth Center at 732-819-0052 or register in person at the Center. Registration begins on the first of the month for all advertised programs.

• When registration is filled, you may not be admitted at the door if you are not pre-registered.

• All programs offered to Highland Park Senior/Youth Center members are free, unless otherwise noted. Senior Membership Form must be completed to participate in programs and utilize services.

• When a fee is charged, payment must be made to reserve your spot.

• We accept Cash, Check or Money Order.

• In Town Membership \$10.00 per year. Out of town membership fee is \$75.00 per year.

• Exercises Programs such as Body Recall, Exercise with Donna & Tai Chi require \$1.00 per class. All other exercise programs are included in the yearly membership and are free of charge.

• PLEASE NOTE: Photos may be taken at any time at any Borough event or program and used for publicity or other purposes.

• All programs are subject to change or cancellation.

• Seniors may also participate in any activity sponsored by the Recreation Department, the Department of Community Services, or as part of the 50 + Junior/Senior Program. Cost will vary depending on the program.

Services offered by the Center include:

- o Massage Therapy
- o Seamstress
- o Blood Pressure Screenings
- o On-Site Postal Service
- o Outreach Worker for Information and Assistance
- o In-Town Transportation
- o Out-of-Town Medical Transportation
- o Free Continental Breakfast
- o Friendly Visitor Program
- o Raking and Snow Removal Service (seasonal)
- o Driver Safety Classes (seasonal)
- o Farmer's Market Voucher Distribution (seasonal)
- o Stroke Screenings (seasonal)
- o Tax Preparation Assistance (seasonal)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Positions available include:

- Receptionists
- Bingo Callers
- Friendly Visitors
- ESL Instructors
- Videographers

Please share your skills and energy with us. If you are interested in getting involved, call the Center.

THE BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK WOULD LIKE TO THANK...

APOSTO PIZZERIA & RESTAURANT

PARK DELI & DUNKIN'DONUTS

For their continued support to the Highland Park Senior/Youth Center Program

&

A very special Thank you to

THE DISH CAFÉ

for sponsoring our September 2012 Senior Luncheon & Highland Park's Sultan Wok for sponsoring our upcoming February Senior Luncheon

THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT & GENEROUS CONTRIBUTIONS HELP TO MAKE OUR PROGRAMS A HUGE SUCCESS!

HIGHLAND PARK SENIOR OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Highland Park Borough Senior Outreach Program provides information and assistance to seniors 60+, disabled adults, and their caregivers. The Outreach Coordinator is here to listen and respond to your urgent needs. She will help arrange for various services such as meals, housing options, home energy, immigration, transportation, social security, Medicare, food stamps, and Medicaid. Our Outreach Coordinator will actively work with you to assist with forms and applications for programs and benefits, and will advocate on your behalf if a problem or glitch arises. Best of all, our services are free of charge and confidential.

Due to the increasing number of people seeking outreach services, we ask that you call to make an appointment ahead of time. Appointments are available on Monday, Tuesday, and Friday between 8:00am and 1:00pm. Drop-in hours are on Thursdays from 9am-12pm, on a first come served basis. Homebound persons may call to request a home visit. Please call to schedule an appointment at 732-819-0052 between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm. Counselor.

* Chinese/Mandarin translators desperately needed. Your help is needed and we will accommodate your schedule. Please ask for Kim or Rosa, Highland Park Senior Center, 732-819-0052.

Climbing Great Heights for Children with AIDS

By Highland Park News Staff

When Highland Park residents Maureen Vogel-Horowitz and Donna Naranjo pushed themselves to the summit of Mt. Kilimanjaro in October 2011, they were far from the town where they each raised their families, but they kept with them their spirit of family to push them forward.

That spirit was what ultimately motivated them to scale over 19,000 feet over Tanzania, and it's what pushes them to build on that effort, which sought to raise money to improve the lives of children and youth struggling with HIV/AIDS.

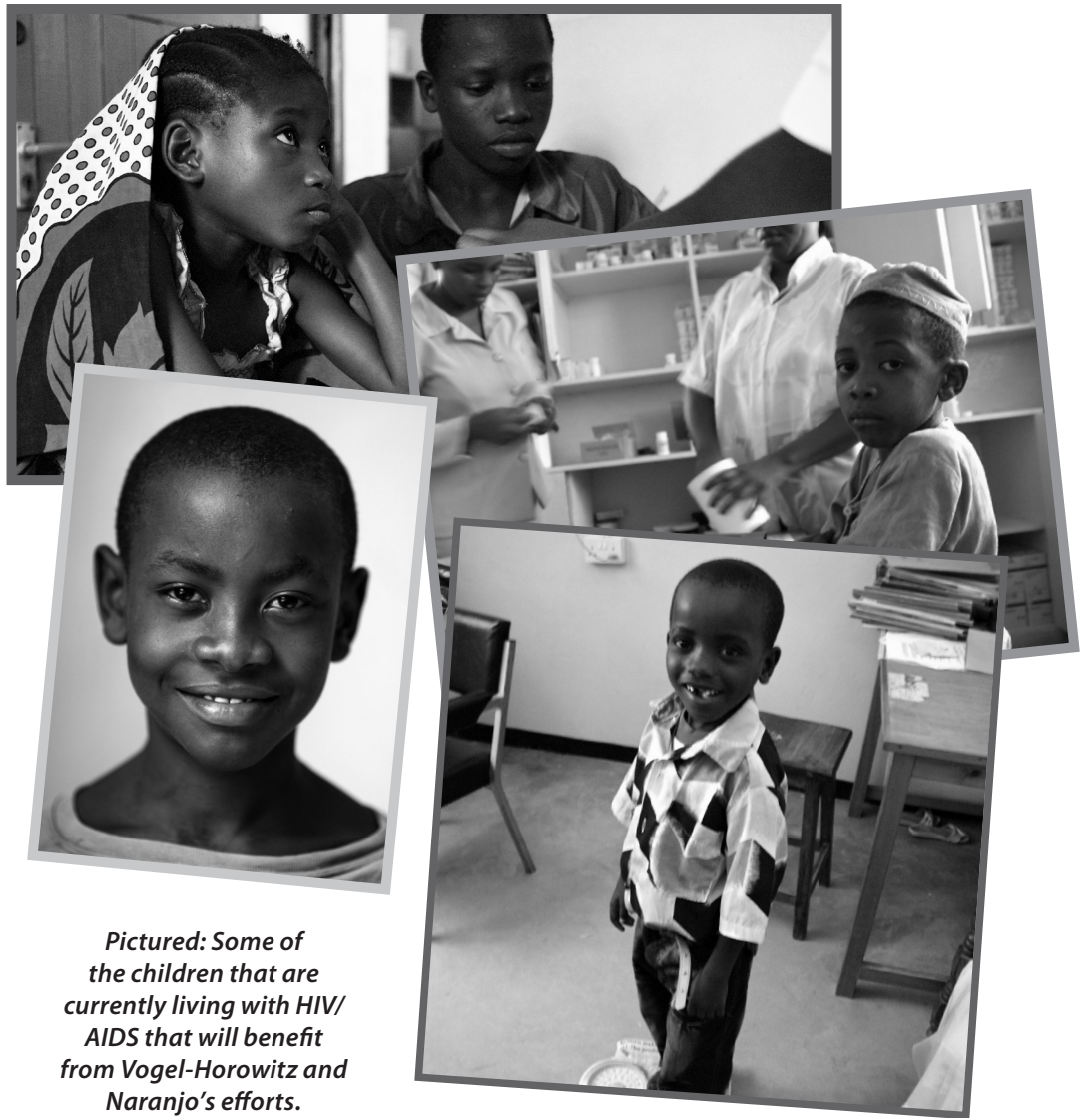
The Harrisburg, Pa.-based American Foundation for Children with AIDS (AFCA), the nonprofit that hosted the charity climb, works to provide children (pre-birth to 19) with HIV/AIDS in Sub-Saharan Africa with life-saving medication (anti-retroviral, chemotherapy, antibiotics, etc), nutritional supplements, and medical supplies, to en-

sure that they live a full and healthy lives.

Currently, AIDS has had the most devastating effect on children in Africa, and if progress is not made in halting the spread of HIV, millions of children will needlessly continue to die. Without the medication AFCA provides, half of the children affected by AIDS will die before their second birthday and 75 percent will die before they reach five years of age.

Vogel-Horowitz and Naranjo each made a pledge to raise \$ 8,000 for AFCA and are actively seeking donations to further their advocacy efforts. "We are ordinary women doing an extraordinary task, pushing ourselves both mentally and physically," Vogel-Horowitz says.

For more information or to donate, contact Vogel-Horowitz at mohighpk@gmail.com or Naranjo at donna.naranjo@gmail.com. For more information about AFCA, go to: www.AFCAids.



Pictured: Some of the children that are currently living with HIV/AIDS that will benefit from Vogel-Horowitz and Naranjo's efforts.

FREEHOLDER CORNER

Department of Public Safety and Health



In January of this year, I became the Chairman of the Department of Public Safety and Health. As such my committee oversees operations and or budgets for the Prosecutors Office, Sheriff, Corrections, Medical Examiner, Health Department, Weights and Measures, Consumer Affairs, Emergency Management and County Fire Marshal. I look forward to utilizing my public safety experience to help develop new programs and initiatives that can increase public safety, maintain and grow our volunteer fire and first aid ranks and improve and expand our Public Health program delivery.

As a resident and former Mayor of the Borough of Highland Park, I can assure you that I am constantly working to identify programs, grants and services that can be provided by the county and state to our Borough. As your Freeholder I am pleased to have been able to orchestrate county funding for the turf field and mu-

nicipal park at the high school, the new lavatories installed there this year, a new state of the art radio system for the police department, and a building renovation grant for the First Aid Squad. In addition I have worked closely with your Mayor and Council to create new programs in town like the bike rodeo at the Arts Fair, a traffic safety program entitled "Slow Down in Our Town", as well as numerous Green grants to enhance the downtown and continue to help Highland Park achieve its sustainability goals.

Our Public Safety and Health departments provide support to your community and often partner on many initiatives and programs. Through these partnerships we can also save taxpayer dollars through cooperative agreements and shared services. We will continue to work to create new shared service opportunities where appropriate to enhance services and reduce costs.

If you have any ideas about how we can improve the delivery of public safety and health programs in the county please e-mail me or contact my office. Your innovative ideas may create new opportunities for the residents of our county.

FREEHOLDER JAMES POLOS
CHAIRMAN PUBLIC SAFETY AND HEALTH COMMITTEE
FREEHOLDER@MPM-NJ.COM
732-249-2611

RESIDENT ALERT NOTIFICATION

TO: ALL RESIDENTS

The Borough has implemented an alert system that will notify you of any general information/bulletins via email or text message. Please indicate your cellular number and/or email address to sign up.

RESIDENT NAME _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

CELL NUMBER _____

NORTH SIDE (SQUARE)

SOUTH SIDE (SQUARE)

TRIANGLE (SQUARE)

PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM TO ANY BOROUGH BUILDING OR MAIL TO:

BOROUGH OF HIGHLAND PARK
221 SO. 5TH AVENUE
HIGHLAND PARK, NJ 08904
ATTN: MONICA JACKSON

**When receiving emails or text messages with this new notification system, you may be charged a fee by your cellular phone carrier. Please check with your carrier for rates and charges.

THE 7 WONDERS OF HIGHLAND PARK

Many of the things that make Highland Park a terrific place to live and raise a family, as we all know, reveal themselves over time and sometimes in unexpected ways. In this first installment of an ongoing series, we hear from residents on what makes Highland Park “wondrous.” We know it’s subjective, but that’s the point. Everyone has a different take, a different perspective, and a different reason that illustrates why our town is great.

THIS EDITION’S GUEST CONTRIBUTOR:

DIANE REH

WHAT ARE MY 7 WONDERS OF HIGHLAND PARK?

1

Aposto’s with friends—76 Raritan Ave. Food is great, friendly staff. Homey ambiance if you have an excellent chef and friendly servers at home.

2

Birnn Chocolate truffles—341 Cleveland Ave. **It’s all about chocolate!**

3

Donaldson Park. Go before 7 a.m. go down South 2nd until you see the river and the egrets.

4

Mary Forsberg and Carl Pray’s backyard on Denison St. A beautiful and well cared for garden.

5

Murals by Jonathan Horowitz at 421 and 425 Raritan Ave. Such an expression of talent and creativity and you can see it from your car.

6

Rory’s Garden in front of Yellow Brick Road—15 South 3rd Ave. Lovingly created by her friends and tended by the Zarras.

7

White Rose french fries—154 Woodbridge Ave. Hot and salty. **Need I say more?**

Want to list your 7 Wonders of Highland Park? Write to mjackson@hpboro.com with your name, address, list of 7 Wonders, and a sentence on why it’s wondrous to you and we’ll publish it either in the Highland Park News or the Highland Park eNews.

Highland Park First Aid Squad

Valeri Drach Weidmann, Special to The Highland Park News

When Highland Park First Aid Squad (HPFAS) Captain Ari Lewitter was a high school student in Riverdale, New York, one of his teachers dropped dead in front of him.

“No one was able to help him,” Captain Lewitter said. “I learned CPR the following year.”

According to Captain Lewitter, who has been a member of the Highland Park First Aid Squad for 27 years, from that moment on, he knew he would have to join a first aid squad at some time during his life.

The HPFAS, an organization of 40 volunteers, is the boroughs first line of defense whenever anyone in the borough has a medical emergency or is in an accident. It answers 1,200 calls per year, an average of 4 per day, with a squad made up exclusively of volunteers.

The calls they respond to are 70 percent medical, including heart attacks, GI bleeding, births and 30 percent trauma.

Volunteers include cadets who are high school students, and members of Rutgers and Middlesex Community Colleges, and other adult volunteers.

It also, almost exclusively, depends on donations of

funds to operate 24/7. It does not charge patients for ambulance transport.

“Although the borough of Highland Park does help us out by paying our utility bill, we are separate from the borough and we must pay all of our other costs, including the purchase of new ambulances,” Squad Captain Ari Lewitter. “Our budget of \$100,000 comes almost solely from contributions, mostly from our annual mail fund raiser.”

This year the Squad had to purchase an ambulance at a cost of \$190,000.

“We also could use twice as many volunteers since the need in the borough has been increasing,” Captain Lewitter said. “Highland Park has been increasing in size with new housing and the population is aging.”

According to the captain, the squad is comprised of many families that like to volunteer.

“My wife has been a member of the squad for 26 years and recently my daughter, who is a Rutgers student, now enjoys volunteering,” Captain Lewitter said. “We have families with three generations, all volunteering at once as well as hus-

bands, wives, and children.”

Captain Lewitter also commends the Highland Park Police Department for being extremely helpful to the First Aid Squad during calls.

“The police respond to calls in 30 seconds, are extremely helpful and are a blessing,” Captain Lewitter said. “They can begin first aid and CPR.”

This year HPFAS celebrated its 63rd anniversary in the borough and Captain Lewitter cited its deep roots with the community.

You might have noticed a street named McCallum Place where the First Aid Squad of Highland Park (HPFAS) is located. The street intersects with South Eleventh Avenue and it is named for Arthur and Helen McCallum who donated a fully equipped ambulance to the brand new Squad in 1949. Arthur McCallum owned the Flako Products Corporation that had its plant on Cleveland Avenue and boasted a national reputation for providing packaged baked good mixes including pie crusts, corn muffins and cupcakes.

Along with the donation of the ambulance, the borough leased land to HPFAS at no cost. On June 14, 1952 a cere-

mony dedicated the one story brick building on the corner of South Eleventh Avenue and in 1954 Arcadia Avenue was changed to McCallum Place.

During the week of May 7 to May 12, 1955 an historic competition was fought between the South and North sides of Highland Park. The South side of town won the fundraising contest.

Today the growth that started that week in 1955 has expanded HPFAS to include three fully equipped ambulances, a small rescue boat, and to be the primary Basic Life Support and Emergency Medical Services for Highland Park. It also provides back up support to Edison, Piscataway, Metuchen, New Brunswick and Rutgers University.

The squad provides emergency and non-emergency transport to area hospitals as well as EMS coverage for borough sports events, Street Fair, the Park Town outing and Fourth of July celebration in Donaldson Park. The squad also provides First Aid and CPR classes.

For Captain Lewitter, one of the best moments as a volunteer occurred in 1987 during a call to a borough home.

“Finding a pulse after administering CPR, this was before defibrillators, has to be one of the greatest feelings for a volunteer,” Captain Lewitter said. “The patient turned out to be one of the members of my synagogue and when he was released from the hospital his wife introduced me.

Captain Lewitter also assisted during six Highland Park births.

“With 99 percent of most births, the babies and mother do all the work,” Captain Lewitter said. “It’s such a natural process.”

According to the captain, women have given birth in the ambulance so quickly, some babies have arrived blocks before St. Peters. In one case they found the mother in the family bath tub because she didn’t want to get the rest of the house messy.

If you would like to become a volunteer please leave your phone number at 732-985-8960.

Information from Jeanne Kolva’s book, Highland Park: Borough of Homes, contributed to the article.

HAPPENINGS IN HIGHLAND PARK

