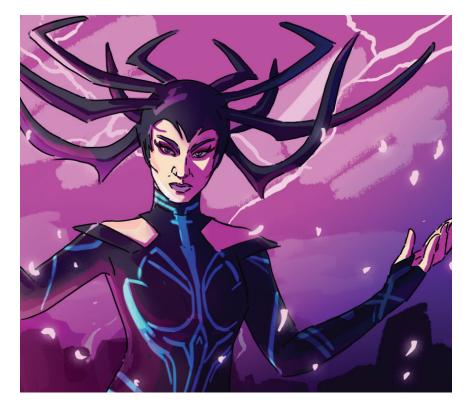
A Publication of the Borough of Highland Park

**SPRING/SUMMER 2018** 

# Workshops! Panels! Sculpture! Welcome to Arts in Highland Park 2018





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This year promises to be an exciting mind and heart-broadening year full of workshops, panels and lots of great arts experiences. Kicking off the year's programming was a Book Arts Workshop – we made The Twirling Palm Puppet Book! This popular workshop, run by HP Arts Commissioner Amée Pollack, was extra fun for children (ages 5+) and adults alike.

On March 29, 2018 we held an exciting and eye-opening look at the Fluxus Movement and some of the Highland Park artists (Rafael Ortiz and Donna Gustafson) who shaped it. Rounding into the spring, the Arts Commission is offering a few more workshops, including Comic Book drawing, Improvisational Theatre and Zen Art & Writing. We're also planning a follow up panel discussion with

local pop-art artists, children of Jewish chicken farmers from the area, and a showing of some film footage from this era.

During the summer, we are producing "Music on the Corner" (4th & Raritan) with Pino's on the first Fridays of the month, followed by the second Autobiography/Spoken Word Workshop in the fall. This is a special 8-week workshop mixing

storytelling, memoir writing and performance. Stay tuned for our big reveal of Highland Park's new Band Aid Bench, the latest installment of public art in the downtown area. And, don't forget about Open Studios and the Art Walk, in June and September this year. New to the Art Walk will be a digital component, a self-guided tour you can play on your cell while touring the artwork down

Raritan Avenue. Make sure to keep abreast of Arts Commission events at our website **www.hpartscommission.com**.

Highland Park Arts Commission: Creating and Supporting Local Arts & Artists.

www.hpartscommission.com

# **Letter From Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler**

www.hpboro.com

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**The Highland Park News** 

Highland Park, NJ 08904

RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

While Highland Park may not be large in actual size, our influence here at home, plus our impact within Middlesex County and the State of New Jersey has established us as a leader in many areas of importance.

This past year, we have made

This past year, we have made enormous strides in our goals to improve the health and wellness of our residents, thanks largely to our Mayor's Wellness Campaign (MWC), led by Dr. Clifton Lacy. In June we were named the first HeartSafe Municipality in New Jersey. To receive this designation, AEDs (heart defibrillators) were installed in all municipal buildings, our Stop & Shop supermarket, and several fitness centers in town. We also held CPR and AED training sessions for residents and Borough employees.

We were also named a "Healthy Town to Watch" by the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute (NJHCQI) in 2017 and 2018! The NJQHCI was so impressed with our initiatives; they chose us as

only one of two municipalities in the entire state to be the recipient of a grant from the Aetna Foundation. Over the next two years, the NJHCQI and Aetna are assisting us in planning Fitness with the Mayor programs that include a special chat with a healthcare professional, Healthy Cooking segments for our HPTV station, discussion series about diabetes and other health issues, and more. This year, our MWC has begun a series of talks led by local physicians, educating residents about a variety of health issues, such as women and heart disease, chronic diseases, and more.

Recent studies have pointed to a correlation between health and art, another category in which Highland Park has truly excelled this past year. Thanks to a revitalized Arts Commission, led by Pandora Scooter and John Marron, art has become more accessible to all members of our diverse community. In 2017, our public art projects won Honor-



able Mention for Innovations in Governance from the New Jersey League of Municipalities. Some of the public art projects include a Sculpture Walk, executed in partnership with Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts, a Chalk Art Festival in conjunction with our National Night Out Celebration, an Open Studios day in which artists opened up their studios

for residents to view their work, and an Art Walk, during which shops along Raritan Avenue displayed works from local artists for residents to walk past and view.

The Arts Commission continues to run workshops and programs for residents of all ages. In addition, Main Street Highland Park

Continued on page 4

# **Upward Trend in School Enrollment and Ever-Expanding Cultural Diversity**

Dr. Scott Taylor, Superintendent

How does a school district that resides in a two-square mile community effectively serve a student body that represents at least 59 different nations of origin and that speaks at least 29 different languages? It researches, studies, analyzes, and practices cultural responsiveness.

Highland Park citizens see new residences springing to life all over town. We are expecting approximately 350 new units or houses due to new developments. These "ratables" help offset the burden of local taxes on the community, and the school system is preparing to respond to the resulting increased enrollment that will likely sustain the diversity among its student population.

Registration of new students in

our schools, according to a 2017 demographic study the district commissioned, is projected to increase an average of 49 students over the next four years. The study can't anticipate the backgrounds of kids who enter our schools, but it's safe to assume that nearby Rutgers, an open and welcoming Highland Park community, and the school district's solid reputation will have people from all over the world making our town their home. It's the strategic measures our schools have put in place to be more culturally competent that will embrace these newcomers just as teachers and leaders have done with elevated success since taking deep dives into better understanding hidden biases, recognizing how we may inadvertently "micro-

aggress" against those whose cultural characteristics we don't recognize, and identifying the influence of dominant "narratives" that may suppress kids' identity. We want all of our students to feel a sense of belonging to the school community. It's school-student connectedness that will bring about success in all areas, including academic achievement.

We've dedicated 13 one-hour professional growth activity hours to having sometimes difficult conversations about how we treat people, including and most importantly our students, based on their distinct cultural traits. The discussions are just a first step toward being more culturally responsive. The next move will be a transformation in our sensitivity to characteristics

of different cultures. September will bring with it a next level in all-in work that will include engagement in the Undoing Racism workshop sponsored by The People's Institute for Survival and Beyond.

Our experience on February 16, 2018 is another example of the schools' commitment to fostering cultural responsiveness. The day brought together teachers and leaders to engage in a one and a half hour dialogue about diversity. The conversation was facilitated by a panel of five community members, each representing a different religion, ethnicity, or nation of origin. Members of the Asian, Latino, Muslim, African American, and Orthodox Jewish communities were represented on the panel. Some of our teachers

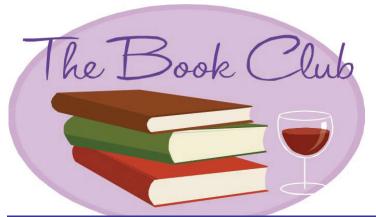
were so impacted by the experience that they made sure to approach organizers of the panel discussion to indicate it was the most informative and engaging professional development activity in which they had ever participated.

Please take a moment to visit the Highland Park School District website by going to www. hpschools.net. There is a wealth of information about our schools, and more can be read about student demographics by accessing the New Jersey Department of Education Performance Reports. Just click the "District" tab at the top of the site and then the "School Performance Reports" link. Of course, you can also obtain information by contacting me directly at 732-572-2400, extension 2813.

# **HRC Book Club Taking Off**

Earlier this year, the Highland Park Human Relations Commission (HRC) created a monthly Book Club for the entire community. Each month the HRC chooses a diverse and thoughtprovoking book for discussion. The conversations are enhanced by guest speakers familiar with the topic, and residents are encouraged to participate in these educational and enlightening sessions.

For information about the Book Club, visit the HRC Facebook page or the Borough website at www.hpboro.com.



For information about the Book Club, visit the HRC Facebook page at facebook.com/hphumanrelationscommission or the Borough website at www.hpboro.com.

# **Summer Office Hours** for the Borough

Borough Hall and the Senior/Youth Center will begin summer hours beginning Monday, July 2 and ending Friday, August 31.

During this time, these offices will be open the following times:



Monday Tuesday 8:00am -8:00am -5:30pm 6:00pm 5:30pm

Wednesday Thursday 8:00am -8:00am -

4:00pm

**Friday** CLOSED

# 2018 BOROUGH CALENDAR

## **Arts Commission Meeting**

Borough Hall, 6:00 pm

April 12; May 10; June 14; July 12; August 9; September 13; October 11; November 8

## **Board of Health Meeting**

Borough Hall, 7:00 pm April 12; May 10; June 14;

September 13; October 11; November 8

## **Borough Council Meeting**

Borough Hall, 7:00 pm April 3 & 17; May 1 & 15; June 12;

July 10; August 14; September 4; October 2 & 16; November 7

## **Commission for Universal Access Meeting**

Borough Hall, 7:30 pm April 16, May 2; June 18; July 16; August 20; September 17; October 15; November 19

## **Community Food Pantry** Meeting

Senior/Youth Center, 7:00 pm April 4; June 6; August 1; October 3;

## **Environmental Commission** Meeting

## **Environmental Center** 8:00 pm

April 11; May 2; June 6; July 11; September 5; October 3; November 7

## **Housing Authority Board Meeting**

## Samuel J Kronman Building 6:30 pm

April 11; May 9; June 13; July 11; September 12; October 10; November 14

## **H.P. Gives a Hoot Committee** Meeting

## Borough Hall, 7:00 pm

April 9; May 14; June 11; July 9; August 13; September 10; October 9; November 13

## **Human Relations Commission Meeting**

## Borough Hall, 7:00 pm

April 18; May 16; June 20; July 18; /August 15; September 19; October 17; November 21

## **Library Board of Trustee** Meeting

## Library, 7:30 pm

April 23; May 21; June 25; July 23; August 27; September 17; October 22; November 26

## **Planning Board Meeting**

## Borough Hall, 7:30 pm

April 24; May 22; June 14; July 12; August 9; September 13; October 11; November 8

## **Public Information Committee Meeting**

Borough Hall, 6:15 pm June 26; September 4

## **Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting**

Senior/Youth Center, 7:00 pm May 7; September 10

## **Rehabilitation and Redevelopment Screening Committee Meeting**

## Borough Hall, 7:00 pm

April 12; May 10; June 26; July 24; August 28; September 25; October 23; November 27

## Safe Walking & Cycling **Committee Meeting**

#### **Senior/Youth Center** 7:00 pm

April 11; May 9; June 13; July 11; August 8; September 12; October 10; November 14

### **Shade Tree Advisory Meeting Borough Hall**

## 8:00 pm

April 11; May 9; June 13; July 11; September 12; October 10; November 14

## **Sustainable Highland Park** Meeting

## **Environmental Center** 7:30 pm

April 25; May 23; June 27; July 25; August 22; September 26; October 24; November 28

## **Zoning Board of Adjustment Meeting**

## **Borough Hall** 7:30 pm

April 23; May 21; June 25; July 23; August 20; September 17;October 22; November 26

## **BOROUGH HOLIDAYS**

**Borough Offices Closed:** 

**Memorial Day** 

**Independence Day** 

**Labor Day** September 3

**Columbus Day** October 8

**Veterans Day** November 12

**Thanksgiving Day** November 22

**Day After Thanksgiving** November 23

All meetings are subject to change, please check the Borough's website at www.hpboro.com for updates.

# **Highland Park Gives a Hoot Sponsors Mentorship Program** for High School Students



The Borough of Highland Park's "Highland Park Gives a Hoot" non-profit fund is now offering a peer-to-peer mentorship program for students at Highland Park High School.

The peer-to-peer mentorship program, which started in the Fall of 2017, provides the opportunity for upperclassmen to mentor freshman students. The students meet twice a month, before school, during their zero period to discuss topics and engage in activities which are designed to help them develop academic, social, and emotional skills.

"The students work together to engage in activities related to active listening, observation, developing social-emotional skills, and goal setting," said Michael Buchman, chairperson of Highland Park Gives a Hoot. "They also talk about goal setting; things like what is a goal, the structure of a goal, and then share those goals with each other."

Buchman added: "It's also nice that the freshmen students can have someone to look out for them, someone they can text or call, if things can crazy or in case of bullying."

The program currently has about 30 members—half mentors and half mentees, and the mentors may soon have the option of receiving a small stipend of \$100 upon completion of the mentorship year.

Buchman hopes that this program will motivate previous mentees to become mentors in

"We really want this program to become a regular part of our school year," he said. "We want this program to be desirable and accessible to any student who could benefit from it."

The HP Gives a Hoot fund was first founded to provide healthy lunches to children when school is not in session, a need that exists in Highland

Park. Since then the fund has

grown to include camp scholarships for teens and younger children, plus this new mentorship program. The fund relies on donations from residents.

You may make donations by mailing or dropping off a check to Borough Hall, 221 South 5th Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904, in the memo line write "HP Gives a Hoot."

# **Spotlight On: Mayor's Wellness Campaign**

Dr. Clifton Lacy, the Chair of the Mayor's Wellness Campaign (MWC), is fond of saying, "It's nearly impossible to die in Highland Park." That's because the MWC has initiated efforts to make our town safer and healthier.

In May 2017, Highland Park was named the first HeartSafe Municipality in New Jersey. We received this designation by placing AED's, or heart defibrillators, in all municipal buildings, as well as Stop & Shop, Rite Aid, and several local fitness centers. In addition, the MWC held CPR and AED training sessions for residents and employees.

Thanks to these efforts and other MWC initiatives, Highland Park was named a New Jersey American Heartsaver and Stroke Hero Award, from the American **Heart Association and American** Stroke Association. This award honors "NJ heroes who have strengthened the Chain of Survival" through awareness and education programs and accessibility to CPR and AED training.

In addition, the New Jersey Health Care Quality Institute named Highland Park a "Healthy Town to Watch", and chose us as only one of two municipalities in New Jersey to receive assistance from an Aetna Foundation grant. This grant helped fund the "Move with the Mayor" fitness sessions in the winter and "Healthy Cooking" sessions on HPTV, as well as "Take Control of Your Health", a chronic disease management series offered at the Senior/Youth Center.

Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler is a big supporter of the campaign's goals. "I take the municipality's role in providing health living opportunities for our residents quite seriously. We've provided Walk or Work-Out with the Mayor programs for 3 years now. Dr. Lacy and his committee have lots of new, fun ideas for 2018 that will keep us all moving", she said.

The Mayor's Wellness Committee continues to promote wellness through programs including discussion seminars led by local physicians, weight loss challenges, and more.

Look for these programs and more coming soon, and stay healthy in Highland Park!

# WHAT DEPARTMENT DO I NEED?

**MAIN TELEPHONE NUMBER** 

732-572-3400

## **BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

800-624-0241

www.state.nj.us/bpu/assistance

## **BOROUGH CLERK**

732-819-3782

Apartment Registration, Business License, Dog & Cat License, Flood Zones (Maps), Garage Sale Permits, Liquor Licenses, Notary Public, Ordinances, Request for Public Record, Street Maps, Used Car Lot Licenses, Taxi Licenses, Voter Registration, Zone Maps (to

## **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

## **COURT**

732-777-6010

Court Wedding/Civil Union Ceremony by Judge

## **HEALTH**

732-819-3790

## **LIBRARY**

732-572-2750

www.hpplnj.org

**MAYOR** 732-777-6001



## **PARKS**

732-745-3900

Park Maintenance

## **PLANNING & ZONING**

732-819-3792

## **POLICE**

732-572-3800

Abandoned Cars on Street, Accident Reports (ext. 4211), Animal Control (Dead or Stray)

## **Weekends and Evenings**

Health Emergencies, Noise Complaints, Snow not removed from sidewalks

## **PSEG**

## 800-426-7734

www.pseg.com

## **PUBLIC WORKS**

732-514-1277

Borough Shade Tree, Bulk Trash, Garbage, Leaf Bags, Recycling, Roadway Improvements, Snow

## **RECREATION**

732-819-0052

Recreation/Arts Programs & Events, Registration & Information

## **SCHOOLS**

## 732-572-6990

School information http://www.hpschools.net/

## **TAX ASSESSOR**

## 732-819-3787

Block & Lot, Deed Inquiries

## **TAX COLLECTOR – FINANCE**

## 732-819-3788

Senior Citizen Tax Deductions, Tax Bills, Veteran Tax Deductions

## **VITAL STATISTICS**

## 732-819-3782 or 732-777-6014

Birth Certificate, Death Certificate, Marriage License

## WATER

## 732-247-9379

Billing 732-819-3787 Maintenance Only 732-247-9379 Meter Issues/Questions, Sanitary Sewer Back-ups (Weekends & Evenings) 732-572-3800, Water leaks, Water Quality Issues/ Questions

## **WATER & SEWER FINANCE**

732-819-3787

Billing & Meter Reading, Sewerage Bills

# **Spotlight on our Seasonal Recreation Employees!**

Highland Park Recreation gives teens and young adults opportunities to enter the workforce by employing them as scorekeepers, referees, summer camp counselors, and program helpers for our youth sports and activities throughout the year.

We enjoy helping the youth gain valuable employment skills and see them step up to the challenges and responsibilities presented

Future employment opportunities may be found on the Borough's website using this link http://www.hpboro.com/jobs.aspx



http://www.hpboro.com/jobs.aspx

# Highland Park Resident Receives Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award



Highland Park resident Harry Pangemanan received the 2018 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Award from the Highland Park Human Relations Commission on January 15, 2018. The annual event recognizes an individual who has shown exemplary leadership and service to the community.

Pangemanan came to the United States in 1993, fleeing from the violence and suffering aimed at ethnic Chinese Christians in Indonesia. He settled in Highland Park in 2000, where he helped form an Indonesian congregation at the Reformed Church of Highland Park (RCHP), and worked with the RCHP to assist in register-

ing hundreds of Indonesians with the federal government.

Detained in 2009 after facing his own immigration challenges, Pangemanan started a detention visitation program, and assisted in writing the Indonesian Refugee Family Protection Act, introduced by Congressman Pallone and Senator Lautenberg in 2012.

He was also active in collecting goods, preparing meals, and offering hospitality to victims of Hurricane

Sandy in 2012. The following year he became RCHP's Minister of Disaster Relief and created Churches Accomplishing Long-Term Recovery, leading more than 3,000 volunteers on disaster –relief trips to help rebuild 209 homes along

Raritan Bay and provide rapid response to flooded areas throughout the country.

Pangemanan said his work is possible because of the support and assistance from his community of Highland Park and church.

"I will continue serving Highland Park because of the support from all you," he said. "It's not about one life, but about the entire community."

\*Ten days after winning this award, Pangemanan and two other Indonesian immigrants were forced to seek sanctuary in the RCHP to avoid being detained by authorities. He remained there until February 9, following U.S. District Judge Esther Salas's decision to block the order for deportation.

Currently, Harry is the Property Manager for RCHP-Affordable Housing Corporation. He lives in Highland Park with his wife and two daughters.

# Safer Walking and Cycling in Highland Park

Highland Park's Safe Walking and Cycling Committee (SWACC) has hit the ground running since forming in September 2016 - coordinating events and seeking grants to make Highland Park a safer place to walk and bike and an even better place to work and live.

## **Grant Funding**

SWACC helped prepare a funding application for a New Jersey Department of Transportation (NJDOT) Safe Routes to School (SRTS) grant to implement infrastructure improvements. The Borough was awarded \$216,000 in funding to install curb cuts and make other improvements around

Bartle and Irving. The Borough also received a Technical Assistance Grant from NJDOT, which includes engineering services to assist with the development of the plans for our project.

SWACC also prepared a successful application to NJDOT's Local Bicycle/Pedestrian Planning Assistance program. The Borough will be paired with consultant planners and engineers at no cost to the Borough. Kicking off this spring, consultants will help us create a comprehensive bicycle and pedestrian plan aimed at promoting walking and bicycling, enhancing safety, supporting sustainability, and making our

community accessible for people of all ages and abilities.

## Events

SWACC members have organized a pedestrian safety presentation and walking club for Borough seniors and a bicycle rodeo at Bartle School attended by over 70 children. SWACC is also helping to plan a Bike to School Day on May 25th with Middle School Students. SWACC looks forward to planning additional fun and engaging events for the entire community.

If you have any questions or ideas, please email

HPSWACC@gmail.com.



Continued from page 1

## Letter From Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler

sponsors their annual Arts in the Park juried arts festival every September, and the Highland Park Street Fair, which also features a number of artistic booths, every spring.

Our children and teens are always a priority for the Borough. To that end, our "HP Gives a Hoot" fund has raised over \$10,000 to date to help provide lunches for students when school is not in session, offer scholarships for our Recreation Summer Camp, and this year helped create a "Peer to Peer" Mentorship program at our high school, matching upperclass students with younger

students, to help them navigate through their first years of high school.

We held the Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new Teen Center, located at South 6th and Benner Street, and plan to open for all high school teens by the end of 2018. This will be a safe place that all of our teens can call their own. It will include programs that incorporates our community youth and police in day-to-day fun activities together.

Another area in which Highland Park is taking a leading role is the issue of new immigrants and refugees. After declaring Highland Park an "Inclusive Community", we have brought initiatives and programs to care for all of our residents. Our Municipal ID Program has benefitted a number of residents, and our newly formed "Immigra-

tion and Refugee Task Force" has begun planning for ways to help our newest residents acclimate to life in Highland Park and beyond.

Of course, as with many towns in the Northeast, Highland Park is facing infrastructure issues due to aging pipes, roads and utility lines. To that end, we have been working with PSE&G to replace gas lines and we have been repairing streets. In 2017, 14 roads were repaired, and 8 more are planned for 2018. We have also begun a microgrid feasibility study, funded by a grant, to analyze the effects of a microgrid on keeping key Borough buildings open during temporary emergency outages. The program is called BRITE (Being Resilient In Temporary Emergencies).

Our Economic Development teams have been busy setting

the stage for anticipated downtown development in Highland Park. In 2017 we designated all of Highland Park as an Area in Need of Rehabilitation. This designation in addition to a new Rehabilitation Screening Advisory Committee, consisting of members from our Zoning Board, Planning Board, Main Street Highland Park, and Redevelopment Agency, is helping us streamline the process for potential developers while ensuring that we get the best possible projects for our municipality. Two projects have already passed through the advisory stage and will be moving forward to the next steps which include approvals at open public meetings from official boards in town.

A vital part of our continued growth and development comes from the work of our

resident volunteers, who donate their time and skills to benefit our community. Our Park Partners "Give Back" Community Grant Program is one way for residents to bring beneficial ideas to fruition. This past February, hundreds of residents came out to vote for programs to receive a grant of up to \$2,000. This year's resident project recipients include Opera in the Park, Raices Roots Music Concert Series, Gaga Ball Pit, UNIFI (United Neighbors Improving Food Insecurity), and Wildlife Habitat Restoration.

I look forward to continued programming, development, and innovative ideas in our community in the coming year. And, I am hoping to see all of you at events such as the Street Fair, Independence Day Fireworks Celebration, National Night Out, and more.

# What's Happening on Main Street

Get ready for another great year in downtown Highland Park! Downtown Highland Park is the place to be this spring for both shopping and fun. Main Street Highland Park and the Borough are teaming up to bring you even more reasons to get downtown this spring.

# Tenth Anniversary of the Highland Park 5k Race & Superhero Kids Races

Join Main Street Highland Park for a full day of fun starting with the TENTH annual Run in the Park 5k on Sunday May 6 at 9:00 am. The race starts next to Highland Park High School, and then winds its way through the historic streets of Highland Park before finishing behind the High School on the track. Visit http://runinthepark.org/to check out the course, register online, and check out sponsorship opportunities.

Following the 5k, refreshments will be available in the finish area. At 10am there will be Superhero Kids Races, sponsored by Yellow Brick Road preschool,

on the high school track. Kids' race entrants will also receive a t-shirt and refreshments.

Race Proceeds to benefit the Borough of Highland Park Police, Fire, First Aid, Library, Main Street, and the Recreation Department. Please consider bringing a non-perishable food donation for the Highland Park Food Pantry on the race day.

To register for the 5k and/or the Kids' Races, visit http://runin-thepark.org/!

#### Calling all Sponsors! Support to Sponsor the Highland Park 5k

The Highland Park 5k race proceeds benefit the Borough of Highland Park Police, Fire, First Aid, and Recreation departments; the Highland Park Public Library; and Main Street Highland Park. There are a number of sponsorship levels available. Please consider being an event sponsor! More information here: http://runinthepark.org/sponsor.

And check out the great new HP 5k logo and shirts!





## After the 5k, Stay Downtown for the Spring Fling Street Fair

After the 5k, make your way over to Raritan Avenue for the annual Spring Fling Street Fair, which is Sunday May 6 from 11:30 am – 4:30 pm. This annual spring festival is one of Highland Park's signature events, and features something for everyone. It has

crafters, vendors, artists, music, food, games, kids' rides, and more. Admission is free!

We want Highland Parkbased businesses and organizations to be vendors at this great festival that attracts thousands of people downtown. Email mainstreethighlandpark@ gmail.com for more info!

#### Help Beautify Main Street on Downtown Planting Days

Get your hands dirty and help plant flowers along Raritan and Woodbridge Avenues to fill over 150 downtown planters with beautiful plants and flowers supplied by Main Street Highland Park. Downtown Planting Days will be Thursday May 17, 3 pm - 6 pm, and Saturday May 19, 10 am - 1 pm. Come to the Main Street High-

land Park offices at 212 Raritan

Avenue on either day to pick up

your plants, your planter assign-

ment, and get your free Planting

Day t-shirt while supplies last!

Outdoor Movie Nights Are

In partnership with the Highland Park Outdoor Movie Theater, there will be a lineup of eight Saturday night outdoor movies this summer, on May 26, June 9, June 23, July 7, July 21, August 4, August 18, and September 1. Keep checking the Outdoor Movie Theater's Facebook page for updates, here: facebook.com/HighlandPark-OutdoorMovieTheater/

Interested in supporting Highland Park's summertime outdoor movies, getting a cool t-shirt, and having a vote in what movies are shown downtown? Email **hpoutdoormovies@gmail.com** today!

Follow Main Street Highland Park online!

**Web:** MainStreetHP.org **Facebook:** /MainStreetHP **Twitter:** @MainStreetHP

Instagram: @MainStreetHP

**Google Calendar:** https://goo.gl/HgHrJg

# Got lots of patience? 30 years worth? Request a Tree for Planting in Highland Park!

The Shade Tree Advisory Committee encourages residents to request a street tree planting in front of their property. The Highland Park DPW will plant a tree on Borough property next to your sidewalk upon request. It's a win-win for everybody:

- Trees increase the value of your home, as curb appeal is enhanced.
- Trees improve the environment by supplying clean air and taking in carbon dioxide.
- They provide shade in the summer, sunlight and warmth in the winter.
- Trees provide shelter and food for birds, butterflies, and

other wildlife.

And there's little risk to the homeowners – new street trees are 8-12 feet tall when planted, and the types of trees we select are chosen so that their roots present little to no risk for causing damage to your sidewalks.

In addition, if a Borough tree has been removed from in front of your property, it will be replaced by the Borough.

So request your street tree now! Request forms are at Borough Hall or online at www.hpboro.com.



www.hpboro.com



# Sustainable Highland Park's Plastic Bag Campaign Continues

Sustainable Highland Park (SHP) is continuing to talk to residents about the dangers of single use plastic bags in an effort to get people to bring their reusable bags when they shop.

# Did you know that last year at Stop & Shop 1.3 million plastic bags were distributed?

Worldwide, more than 5 trillion plastic bags are distributed annually. Only 1% is recycled while most bags end up in our waterways, injuring or killing marine life and getting into our food chain.

Most people tell us they have their reusable bags in their cars or closets. They just can't remember to bring them into the store. So we have installed lawn signs in parking lots and on Main Street to help people remember. And we are getting feedback that this helps!

# Did you know that OIL is used in the production of plastic bags and this contributes to climate change?

Bringing your reusable bags every time you shop will reduce your carbon footprint.

We have recently started a drawing at Stop & Shop. Bring your reusable bag to enter the drawing.

Every Monday morning we pick a winner for a \$25 award. Have you entered yet?

SHP continues to give out free "REFUSE THE PLASTIC" reusable bags at town events. We hope to see you at **Earth Day on April 22** at the Environmental Center on River Road where you can get a bag, listen to music and learn more about preserving our habitat.



# The Department of Community Services

# **SENIOR PROGRAMS** Spring/Summer 2018

#### **SENIOR LUNCHEONS & PARTIES**

All Programs will be held at the Highland Park Senior/Youth Center, Free of charge, unless noted.

**Spring Luncheon** Tuesday, April 10th, 12:00 noon **Musical Entertainment** Provided by: Spook Handy

**May's Senior Luncheon** Tuesday, May 22nd, 12:00 noon Entertainment by: Jerry Castaldo

## **Senior Prom** "Dancing Under the Stars"

Tuesday, June 19th 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m

Join us for a Magical Evening of Dancing, Candlelit Dinner, Voting of 2018 Prom King & Queen and so much more! Back by popular demand - DJ Maxx will be providing our entertainment.

#### **Ice Cream Social Events** Tuesday July 24th & Tuesday, August 14th, 2:30 pm

Escape the heat and join your friends for an afternoon treat! Ice cream with all the toppings!

#### **Hawaiian Luau**

Tuesday, August 28th, 2:00 pm Join us for a Hawaiian Luau Party this summer! Enjoy authentic snacks & games

#### **SENIOR TRIPS**

All trips depart from the Highland Park Senior/Youth Center, unless otherwise noted.

#### **Out of Town Shopping Trips** Every Wednesday, 12:30 pm -3:30 pm

Departs from Senior/Youth Center, FREE (See Center for weekly listing)

### **Hunterdon Hill Playhouse -Dinner Theatre "Steel Magnolias"** Tuesday, March 20th, 11:00 am \$79.00 per person

Includes: Full Course Meal & Desserts, Show Tickets & Transportation. Call Center for details & to register

**Atlantic City Trip** Tuesday, April 17th, 8:30 am -6:30 pm Cost & Casino: TBA

**Cornucopia Princess Trip** Thursday, July 12th, 10:30 am - 6:00 pm

#### \$50.00 per person

Includes: Buffet Style Lunch & Dessert, Live entertainment and sailing the Hudson River!

Please check our Monthly Senior Center Calendars for **Upcoming Trips to Atlantic** City, Longwood Gardens, NYC **Broadway Show Trips and** many more...

#### **PROGRAMS**

All programs will take place at the Senior/Youth Center

**CAMEO Lunch Program Hot & Nutritious Kosher** Lunch, Includes: Entrée, **Salad & Dessert** 

**Every Tuesday & Thursday,** 12:00 noon \$5.00 contribution per meal

## **Free Tax Assistance Provided by: United Way**

**Every Wednesday during Tax** Season. Feb. 7th - April 11th, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm **By Appointment ONLY!** Senior/Youth Center

Free must meet guidelines (Call center for details)

## **Take Control of Your Health** FREE Six- Week Chronic **Disease Self-Management** Program, Starting Monday, March 26th - Monday, April

30th, 12:30 pm – 3:00 pm Free Booklet, Healthy Snacks, **Incentives & Completion** Certificate. Please stop by or Call Center to register. OPEN TO ALL

## **Painting with Flowers** Workshops

Wednesdays, 9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Monday's & Friday's, 11:30 am -12:30 pm, Wednesday's 11:45

Cost: \$1.00 per class

## **Senior Yoga**

Monday's & Friday's 12:30 pm - 1:00 pm Cost: \$1.00 per class

Thursdays, 2:00 pm Cost: \$1.00 per class

**Healthy Bones** Thursdays, 9:30 am

**Knitting & Crochet** Monday's, 10:00 am

## **BINGO**

Tuesday's & Thursday's, 12:30

## **Bridge**

Monday's, Tuesday's & Thursday's, 1:00 pm

**Cards/Mah Jongg** Tuesday's, 1:00 pm

**Ping Pong Instruction with** Sean

Tuesday's, 4:30 pm

## Chorus

Tuesday's, 10:00 am

**Piano Instruction** Tuesday's, 11:00 am

**Painting Class** 

Monday's, Thursday's & Friday's, 10:00 am

**Yiddish Group** Wednesday's, 10:30 am

## **Podiatrist**

2nd Tuesday of each month, 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm

Please bring your insurance card and any information you would bring with you to a Doctor's office visit.

#### **Monthly Blood Pressure** Screening

1st Thursday of each month, 9:30 am - 12:00 noon

"Mike the Barber" 2nd Thursday of each month, 12:30 pm - 3:30 pm Cost: \$7.00

## **Massage Therapist** 1st & 3rd Friday of each month, 11:00 am - 12:30 pm

10, 15 & 20 minute sessions are available. Must sign up in advance Cost: \$20.00 - \$40.00

# **Monday Movies**

## Monday's, 1:30 pm Refreshments provided

#### **Computer Class** 2nd & 4th Friday of each month, 10:30 am

Learn the Basics, Internet, Word & Excel Programs

#### **Afternoon Tea & Discussion** Group

(See Monthly Senior Calendar for listing) Refreshments provided

**Monthly Educational** & Health Related **Presentations/Workshops** 

(See Monthly Senior Calendar

The Department of Community Services Office on Aging - Senior/Youth Center - (732) 819-0052

## **HIGHLAND PARK Department Of Recreation**

**ALL Programs** require a minimum enrollment to run!

## **Special Programs or Events**

#### **Veterans Day/Memorial Day Veterans Day and Memorial** Day take place at the

doughboy statue. Honor our veterans and support our troops by attending the Veterans Day/Memorial Day Parades and Ceremonies.

## Fireworks at the park 07/01 with a rain date of

07/02 rain date. Enjoy the food, games, music and fireworks. If you would like to volunteer to this event please contact the HP Department of Community Services at 732-819-0052.

## **Recreation Advisory Committee** Meets quarterly throughout the year.

The purpose of this committee is to offer suggestions and input regarding future and current programs and activities that would enhance youth and adult recreation and the arts in Highland Park. Currently there are 3 openings. Please call for more information. 732-819-0052

## **Adult Programming**

## **Fitness for All**

This class uses step, balance balls, dumbbells and exercise tubing to get you in shape.

This program runs all year. The next session will start in January. All levels welcome.

## **Tai Chi**

This class uses gentle movements that can help reduce stress, increase flexibility and improve muscle strength, energy and agility. Beginner and Advanced classes are offered. This program runs all year. The next session will start in January.

## Israeli Dance

Israeli Dance is a traditional dance arising from Jewish religious and cultural celebrations.

## Volleyball

**Runs Mondays starting in** January.

All skills welcome to come and play in organized matches focusing on fun and fundamentals.

## **Indoor and Outdoor Soccer**

## The next two sessions start on Sundays in January and

Winter soccer will take place indoors and will run for 10 weeks. Spring soccer will start in April and will take place on the turf. This program is run in a pick-up format.

This program runs all year.

## Basketball

## This session starts Wednesdays in January.

This is a 30+ men's program that runs in a pickup format. This program runs all year.

## Softball Leagues

## **Adult Program that runs** from April to August.

Women's (Tuesdays) and Coed (Thursday) Teams can register for this program by contacting the Highland Park Recreation Department.

## Youth Programming

#### Baseball- K-5th grades. Runs March to June.

Games are played on Sundays and midweek with practices held mid-week by Coach/field availability. No experience necessary.

## Art- 3-6th grades.

Learn to paint/graphic design simple items and scenes. All skill levels welcome.

## Chess- 6-12 year olds. Learn the basics or improve your game.

This program runs for 8 weeks.

## **Engineering for kids** K-5th grade. NEW!

Fun basics of engineering and robotics. This program runs for 6 weeks.

## **Spring Soccer Clinics** 3-12 year olds.

**Spencer Rockman and Rovers** staff coach to all skills levels to provide maximum enjoyment and skill building.

## **Youth Theater**

8-16 year olds.

Participants will be provided with a fun, creative

environment to explore their dramatic and musical talents.

## **Flag Football**

## K-8th grades.

Join this 5v5, fast paced, noncontact game of flag football run by AIFL instructional football league. This program is coed and is for all skill levels.

## **Summer Camp**

## K-8th

Camp will run for 6 weeks with a 2 day mini-camp to kick off the summer. We will run 5 weeks of sports camp and two weeks of theater camp.

## **Track and Field-**

## 3rd-8th grades.

Runs April to May. This program includes lessons on starts, running form, speed and agility and field events.

## **Buddy Ball**

## **Currently running basketball.**

Takes place on Saturdays 9:30-11am at the HP Middle School. Buddy Ball teaches sports to buddies (special needs children ages 6-18) with Pals (volunteer teens 12-18).

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.

Mail information to: 220 South Sixth Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904

# **Highland Park Public Library**

# From: Jane Stanley, Director of the Highland Park Public Library

We look forward to seeing you at the Library this spring for our exciting new programs. To find out more just call the Library at 732-572-2750 or visit our website at **www.hpplnj.org.** 

In April, Paul Muldoon, the Pulitzer Prize winning poet, will read at the Friends of the Library Poetry Night Series.

In June, we are offering two workshops for small businesses from the New Jersey Division of Taxation. Adults can look forward to health and wellness events, meditation circles, film series, writing workshops, craft activities, concerts, and art pan-

els cosponsored with the Highland Park Arts Commission.

For children, we have an exciting lineup of story times, author presentations, art programs, game days, films, and performances.

In the spring, teens can participate in STEM programs, design individual crafts, and enjoy dance parties and game days.

We have public computers with free internet access and WI-FI. We also offer a Career and Education Center where you can work on your resume and search for jobs. Visit our website **www.hpplnj. org** to access online services such as Mango Languages, downloadable ebooks and audiobooks, and databases provided by the NJ State Library. The library mobile app provides a gateway to our catalog and events from your phone or tablet.

Make sure to sign up for our Library Events announcements by email to find out the date of our next Annual Friends of the Library Book Sale.



Highland Park Public Library 31 North Fifth Avenue Highland Park, NJ 08904 732-572-2750

www.hpplnj.org

www.hpplnj.org

www.hpplnj.org

# Highland Park's Park Partners Community Grant Program Announces 2018 Winners

In February Highland Park held its 5th annual Park Partners Voting Session to determine the 2018 grant winners. More than 200 residents participated in the vote, held at the Senior/ Youth Center in Highland Park.

One winner was chosen in each of five categories. The 2018 winners and grant recipients are:

- Arts: Opera in the Park by the Hub City Opera and Dance Company
- Culture & Diversity: Raices Roots Music Concert Series

from the Raices Cultural Center

- Universal Access or Health & Wellness: Gaga Ball in Highland Park by the Reformed Church of Highland Park
- Safety: UNIFI (United Neighbors Improving Food Insecurity by the Global Grace Café and The Cave Afterschool Program
- Environment: Wildlife Habitat Restoration by volunteers for the Native Plant Reserve

Park Partners is a "give back"

community grant program that awards up to \$2,000 in each of five categories for a project or program to benefit the Highland Park community. Residents, organizations, or businesses in Highland Park can apply for a grant to create and execute the program. Residents vote for the winning projects at a Voting Session in February, during which applicants present their projects in a "sciencefair" type setting. Winning projects must be completed within one year of the grant award.

"I believe that participatory governance empowers our residents and yields creative, fresh ideas to the benefit of all of us," said Highland Park Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler. "This is clearly exemplified by the breadth of our resident grant submissions."

Park Partners was created by Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler in 2014 to encourage resident participation in government, and to offer residents the opportunity to determine how a portion of their taxes is used within the municipality. The program has been a huge success, with an average of 14 applicants each year, and 200-400 residents attending the Voting Session.

Past winners include an Outdoor Movie Series, Environmental Educational Sessions, High School Orchestra, Emergency Radios for disabled and elderly residents, a Diversity Program and more. Applications for 2019 will be available in June.

www.hpboro.com





## **Department of Community Services/Office on Aging**

## The Senior/Youth Center is open:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Friday: 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

(Please refer to Summer Hours Schedule July 3rd through September 1st)

## Senior In-Town Transportation is available:

Monday- Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Tuesday's: 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. & Fridays: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

## Out of Town Medical Transportation is available:

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. To schedule a ride, please call the center at (732) 819-0052.

A monthly Senior Citizens Calendar with detailed program information and more is available at the Senior/Youth Center or online at <a href="https://www.hpboro.com">www.hpboro.com</a>

For further info, please contact The Dept. of Community Services or **Kimberly McGraw**, Senior Program Coordinator, at

## kimberlymcgraw@hpboro.com or stop by the Senior Center to

inquire about registering for programs. Limited enrollments for some programs. Space is limited on some senior trips.

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. All Activities, Programs, Luncheons, Trips & Transportation are available to members of the Highland Park Senior Center. The Yearly fee is \$10.00 for In Town Residents and \$75.00 per year for Out of Town Residents

The Department of Community Services Office on Aging -Senior/Youth Center

(732) 819-0052

## **Public Works Schedule 2018**

#### **Bulk Trash Collection**

April 4 (Wednesday) Business District, North Side & Triangle bulk trash collection

#### April 11 (Wednesday)

South Side bulk trash collection

#### June 6 (Wednesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle bulk trash collection

## June 13 (Wednesday)

South side bulk trash collection

## August 1 (Wednesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle bulk trash collection

## August 8 (Wednesday)

South Side bulk trash collection

## **Memorial Day**

May 28 (Monday) Closed - Memorial Day

## May 29 (Tuesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle recycling collection

## May 30 (Wednesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection

## May 31 (Thursday)

South Side recycling collection

### June 1 (Friday)

**Business District & South Side** garbage collection

## **Labor Day**

September 3 (Monday) Closed - Labor Day

## **September 4 (Tuesday)**

Business District, North Side & Triangle recycling collection

## September 5 (Wednesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection

#### September 6 (Thursday) South Side recycling collection

September 7 (Friday) **Business District & South Side** 

garbage collection

## **Columbus Day**

October 8 (Monday) Closed - Columbus Day

## October 9 (Tuesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle recycling collection

## October 10 (Wednesday)

Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection

## October 11 (Thursday)

South side recycling collection

## October 12 (Friday)

**Business District & South Side** garbage collection

#### **Veterans Day**

November 12 (Monday) Closed - Veteran's Day Observance

## November 13 (Tuesday)

Business District & North Side & Triangle recycling collection

## November 14 (Wednesday) Business District, North Side &

Triangle garbage collection

## November 15 (Thursday) South Side recycling collection

November 16 (Friday) **Business District & South Side** garbage collection

## **Thanksgiving**

November 19 (Monday) Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection

## November 21 (Wednesday)

Business District, South Side garbage collection

## November 22 (Thursday)

Closed - Thanksgiving Day

## November 23 (Friday)

Closed - Day After Thanksgiving

\* No Recycling Collection the week of Thanksgiving

## **STAY UP TO DATE BY FOLLOWING HIGHLAND PARK**

**Visit Our Website** www.hpboro.com

## **FACEBOOK**

www.facebook.com/hpboro

## **TWITTER**

www.twitter.com/hpboro

## **INSTAGRAM**

https://instagram.com/hpboro







## **PUBLIC INFORMATION COMMITTEE:**

Chaim Cohen, Chair; Abby Cardinale; Ana Pairet Vinas, Beth Stevens; Laurel Kornfeld; Mason Resnick; Valeri Drach Weidmann

**BOROUGH STAFF:** Stacy Kaplan, Monica Jackson