

# The Highland Park eNews

July 23, 2018 [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com) 221 S. Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ, 08904 732-572-3400

## Events & Meetings

### Monday, July 23

Library Board of Trustees  
7:30 p.m., Library

### Monday, July 23

Zoning Board of Adjustment  
7:30 p.m., Borough Hall

### Tuesday, July 24

International Film Festival – Women Balcony  
6:30 p.m., Library

### Wednesday, July 25

Finance Committee  
4:00 p.m., Borough Hall

### Wednesday, July 25

Sustainable Highland Park  
7:30 p.m., Environmental Education Ctr.

### Thursday, July 26

Food Pantry Distribution  
9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m. & 6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.,  
Senior/Youth Center

### Thursday, July 26

Public Works & Public Utilities Committee  
8:45 a.m., Borough Hall

### Thursday, July 26

Finding Meaning with Astrology  
7:00 p.m., Library

### Saturday, July 28

Food Pantry Distribution  
9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., Senior/Youth Center

### Tuesday, July 31

International Film Festival – Loving Vincent  
6:30 p.m., Library

### Wednesday, August 1

Bulk Waste: Business District, North Side &  
Triangle

### Wednesday, August 1

H.P. Community Food Pantry  
7:00 p.m., Senior/Youth Center

### Saturday, August 4

H.P. Outdoor Movie Theater – “House Party”  
9:00 p.m., Municipal Lot on Raritan Avenue

### Tuesday, August 7

Chalk Art Festival  
5:00 p.m., Raritan Avenue and Magnolia Street

### Tuesday, August 7

National Night Out  
5:00 p.m., North 3<sup>rd</sup> and Raritan Avenues

All meetings are subject to change, please check the Borough's website at [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com) for updates

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## Memo from Mayor Brill Mittler

Many of you are aware of some recent acrimonious discussions regarding the Highland Park First Aid Squad. Frankly, we got to this point after a series of safety and administrative concerns were discovered that I and the Borough Council felt put our residents' safety at risk and required immediate action. I am happy to inform you



that an open, honest, and productive meeting was held last week between leaders of the Highland Park First Aid Squad, the Borough's Public Safety Committee and the Borough Administrator, that resulted in an agreement that would allow for more Borough oversight over some specific safety areas as well as enhanced communications between our organizations.

As a result of this agreement, we have decided to readjust first aid coverage in the Borough as follows:

Starting Friday, July 20, 2018, the Highland Park First Aid Squad will provide Basic Life Support (BLS) services from 6:00 pm - 6:00 am from Monday – Friday and round-the-clock coverage on Saturdays and Sundays. Robert Wood Johnson Barnabus Health will provide daytime BLS coverage Monday – Friday from 6:00 am - 6:00 pm as well as round-the-clock Advanced Life Support (ALS) and mutual aid support as they have done for many years. This revised schedule increases the overall hours covered by the Highland Park First Aid Squad at times when volunteers are most readily available (nights and weekends).

Both I and the Borough Council are very grateful to the Highland Park First Aid Squad for their cooperation and willingness to institute more thorough policies and oversight for first aid coverage in our town. We have taken care to build into this agreement several check-in points, including a year-end review to determine if and how we will continue to work together into the future.

In the meantime, the Borough will continue its negotiations with Robert Wood Johnson Barnabus Health to finalize costs, coverage options, and added benefits that could come with the hospital's first aid coverage to Highland Park. Until an agreed upon contract is signed, we will be operating under the same terms as provided for with our mutual aid agreement.

Lastly, it is important that every resident know that in the event of an emergency, all you need to do is call 9-1-1 *at any hour* to receive immediate attention.

email: [brillmittlerhp@gmail.com](mailto:brillmittlerhp@gmail.com)

## National Night Out



The Highland Park Police Department will host National Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday, August 7 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at North Third and Raritan Avenues. The event is for the police and residents to come together in the spirit of fighting crime, promoting safety, and building community relationships. It has a block party atmosphere, complete with a DJ, food, refreshments, children's bounce house, rock wall and free giveaways, all for FREE.

Those in attendance will have the opportunity to receive valuable education material and view emergency service equipment and vehicles. Raffles and giveaways of merchandise make it possible through donations by Highland Park businesses will take place throughout the event. Residents of all ages are invited to attend the evening. The rain date is Thursday, August 9.

Questions? Feedback? We want to hear from you!

Let us know what you think by writing to [communications@hpboro.com](mailto:communications@hpboro.com)

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## Highland Marks



Congratulations to Highland Park's own **Ashton Burrell** - a community leader, award winning author and the founder of LIVE (Life in Visions of Evolutions) Mentorship Program, who held the second annual "Shoot Hoops Not Guns" basketball game at the Highland Park High School on June 8<sup>th</sup>. The event advocates for gun violence awareness and safety measures within communities and schools.

Highland Park residents and neighboring communities were in full attendance at the event. There was a moment of silence in dedication and reflection of victims across the world whose lives were lost to gun violence. Councilwoman Elsie Foster Dublin presented proclamations to remember lost loved ones within Highland Park.

The LIVE Mentorship Program builds self confidence and leadership skills among its membership. Mr. Burrell is well known throughout the Highland Park community for his civic engagement and his commitment to helping young people.

**Have you – or someone you know – done something recently that's particularly noteworthy? Let us know about it and we'll include it in Highland Marks! Write to [communications@hpboro.com](mailto:communications@hpboro.com)**

## Highland Park Welcomes Freeholder Director Ronald G. Rios



Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler and Councilwoman Susan Welkovits were pleased to host Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders Director, Ronald G. Rios, on Thursday July 12th to explore the creation of a trail to connect Highland Park's two county parks, Johnson Park and Donaldson Park, to each other and to the East Coast Greenway.

The East Coast Greenway is the longest contiguous trail on the East Coast and, when complete, will run from Key West, FL to Canada. Freeholder Director Rios walked through the Red's Marina section of Highland Park with the Mayor, Councilwoman, Borough Administrator Teri Jover, and the Co-chair of the Borough's Safe Walking & Cycling Committee Fern Goodhart, to better understand the upgrades needed to implement this initiative.

## Chalk Art Festival

The Highland Park Arts Commission and ASAP (Adult Substance Abuse Program) invite you to come to the second annual Highland Park Chalk Art Festival! The event, held in conjunction with National Night Out, will take place Tuesday, August 7 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. on South 3<sup>rd</sup> between Raritan Avenue and Magnolia Street.

Watch local artists create incredible chalk art pictures! There will be a special section for children to create their own artwork (chalk provided)! All donations and sponsors go to ASAP. Donations also accepted online at [www.friendsofasap.org](http://www.friendsofasap.org). The rain date is Thursday, August 9.

## Tax Bill Delay

There has been a statewide delay in tax bill distribution. Residents should receive their tax bill by August 1. Payment of tax bills may be remitted through August 30 to the Borough Tax Office without an interest charge.

If you have not received your bill by August 1, please check the website at [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com) or call the Tax Office (after August 1) at 732-819-3788.

## Junior Police Academy introduced students to basics of law enforcement



This summer dozens of middle school and high school students in Highland Park received an inside look at the different facets of police work, as participants in the Highland Park Police Department's third annual Junior Policy Academy.

Fifty four students, ranging from fifth grade through 11th grade, attended the Junior Police Academy held July 9<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> at various locations in the borough. Junior Police Academy instructors Sgt. Joe Curbelo, Patrolman Brian O'Mara, and Patrolman Guy Palumbo arranged and oversaw a full schedule of activities for the cadets, including presentations by the New Jersey State Police Forensics Photography and Composite Artist Unit, the New Jersey State Police Aviation Unit, the Middlesex County Corrections Gang Unit, Middlesex County Corrections Chief Investigator D. D'Amico, the New Brunswick Police Department Bomb and Drug K9s, the Highland Park Fire Department, the Highland Park Police Detective Bureau, the Highland Park Municipal Court, and others.

Cadets also took a tour of the Highland Park Police Department building and learned about motor vehicle stops and D.W.I., the work of the Drug Enforcement Agency, and the challenges of the physical training police undergo.

One of the signs of the appeal of the Junior Police Academy is the fact that, for many of the older cadets, this was the second time they participated. The three police officers overseeing the academy enlisted the second term students as senior cadet officers, to help guide the new recruits. Another sign of the academy's appeal are the many expression of thanks and praise, in person and on social media, that the HP PD received for holding this program.

The Borough of Highland Park thanks the entire Highland Park Police Department, and especially Sgt. Curbelo, Ptl. O'Mara, and Ptl. Palumbo, for putting together another successful Junior Police Academy.