

# The Highland Park eNews

June 19, 2017 [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com) 221 S. Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ, 08904 732-572-3400

## Events & Meetings

### Wednesday, June 19

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

### Tuesday, June 20

HP Gives a Hoot Fundraiser  
11:00 a.m., TGI Friday's, 993 Route 1 South

### Tuesday, June 20

Senior's Dancing Under the Stars  
4:00 p.m., Senior/Youth Center

### Tuesday, June 20

LGBT Pride Month Flag Raising  
6:00 p.m., Senior/Youth Center

### Wednesday, June 21

Walk with the Mayor Sculpture Walk  
7:00 a.m., Raritan and South Adelaide Avenues

### Wednesday, June 21

Human Relations Committee  
7:00 p.m., Borough Hall

### Thursday, June 22

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

### Thursday, June 22

Sustainable Living Workshop Series – Backyard  
Composting  
6:00 p.m., Environmental Education Center

### Thursday, June 22

Ask the Dog Trainer Kris Collins  
7:00 p.m., Public Library

### Saturday, June 24

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

### Monday, June 26

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

### Tuesday, June 27

Public Information Committee  
6:15 p.m., Borough Hall

### Wednesday, June 28

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

### Sunday, July 2

Sustainable Living Workshop Series – Rain Barrel  
11:00 a.m., Environmental Education Center

### Sunday, July 2

Fireworks in the Park  
5:00 p.m., Donaldson Park

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 Gayle Brill Mittler



Though Memorial Day's joint New Brunswick/Highland Park parade was cancelled due to rain, our Council members joined with me in recognizing all the members of our public safety departments for their work in protecting us. We should never forget that our police officers, fire department, and first aid squad members put their lives on the line for us every day.

Highland Park's municipal departments and Borough commissions and boards work hard to benefit the residents of our community. It is exciting when these groups receive recognition for their hard work and dedication, especially from government or private organizations within Middlesex County. Here are some recent highlights:

- The Highland Park Police Department was recognized by the State Attorney General's Office for their Cultural Sensitivity Training sessions, which have helped officers understand and support the diverse cultures of our community.
- The Mayor's Wellness Committee was named a New Jersey American Heartsaver and Stroke Hero by the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association.
- Sustainable Highland Park received a \$10,000 grant to launch a Plastic Bag Reduction Campaign, to encourage residents and merchants to use canvas instead of plastic bags.
- The Safe Walking and Biking Committee won two awards – a Gold Level Recognition for New Jersey Safe Routes to School 2017-2019, and a Silver Award 2017 for "Outstanding Achievement in creating programs that provide and promote commuting options for employees" from New Jersey Smart Workplaces.

Congratulations to these departments and committees, and thank you for your continued service on behalf of our residents.

I am proud to have joined the US Climate Mayors in committing to the Paris Climate Agreement. This is a peer to peer organization of mayors from throughout the United States sharing ideas and accomplishments, and working to support each other's efforts. As the first Green Community in New Jersey, and the first municipality in New Jersey to ban fracking, Highland Park is committed to saving our environment.

Tomorrow evening (Tuesday, June 20), on the last day of Disarm Hate week, the week that begins by memorializing the 49 deaths due to senseless gun violence in an Orlando nightclub, and ends as we remember the loss of 9 innocent lives in a Charleston church, we in Highland Park rise to disarm hate. At 6:00 p.m. join us as we raise the rainbow flag in support and honor of LGBT Pride Month. Join us.

Once again, this summer several members of the Mandela Washington Fellowship program will be joining us in Highland Park. These young leaders from countries throughout Africa, come to our community to learn about the culture, government, and people of the United States. Highland Park is hosting several Fellows, who will meet with local officials and leaders.

Finally, please join me for a special Sculpture Walk with the Mayor, on June 21, 7:00am, to see our unique new outdoor sculptures on River Road. Meet at the corner of Raritan and South Adelaide Avenue. The sculptures were created by students from the Mason Gross School of the Arts, as part of a collaborative program between the Highland Park Arts Commission and Mason Gross. They will be on display throughout the summer. I look forward to walking with you!

Stay active, and spend time in downtown Highland Park for great food, music, movies, and shopping this summer!



Borough Hall and the Senior/Youth Center will begin summer hours effective Monday, July 3 through Friday, September 1. The summer schedule will be as follows:

Monday & Wednesday: 8:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
Tuesday: 8:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.  
Thursday: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
Friday, Saturday & Sunday: Closed

**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



Dean Paranicas, President and CEO of the HealthCare Institute of New Jersey and the Co-Chair of We Work for Health New Jersey, Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler, Franco Juricic

Congratulations to Highland Park Resident **Franco Juricic** for receiving a Patient Courage Award from the Healthcare Institute of New Jersey and We Work for Health New Jersey. Juricic overcame pancreatic cancer and fulfilled his goal of running the New York Marathon. He is now an advocate for pancreatic cancer research and helps other suffering from this disease.

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)

## Plastic Bag Reduction Campaign



Sustainable Highland Park was awarded a \$10,000 grant from Sustainable New Jersey to launch a Plastic Bag Reduction Campaign. This campaign will encourage residents and local businesses to use canvas shopping bags instead of plastic bags when shopping throughout town (and elsewhere).

Join Sustainable HP to kick off the campaign on **Friday, June 30, 11:30am** at the Farmer's Market on Raritan Avenue between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> (in the municipal parking lot). Learn about how reducing plastic bag usage has an enormous benefit for the environment and sustainability.

## Free Art Program for Kids "Bookmaking Workshop"



Highland Park Gives a Hoot and the Rutgers Mason Gross School of the Art presents a FREE art workshop for kids on Tuesday, June 27 from 12:00 pm – 1:30 p.m. at the Senior/Youth Center located at 220 South 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue. Space is limited to 20 students, so please sign up early at [www.facebook.com/hpgivesahoot](https://www.facebook.com/hpgivesahoot) or <https://goo.gl/forms/MzHxJuHcZbSex3mt2>.

HP Gives a Hoot is a non-profit fund created by the Borough of Highland Park to contribute to the wellbeing of our Highland Park students in need. Donations to the fund are used to provide lunches to students when school is not in session, summer camp scholarships and mentorship programs. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at Borough Hall (Communications Office), 221 South 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904. Questions email us at [igaveahoot@gmail.com](mailto:igaveahoot@gmail.com).



## Highland Park Girls Track Wins First State Title Since 1979



Congratulations to the Highland Park Girls Track team for winning the State Title! The team earned 57 points, with freshman and rising star Rebecca Orchan winning three events. This is the team's first state win since 1979.

## Fireworks in the Park!



Highland Park will be celebrating Independence Day on Sunday, July 2 (rain date, Monday July 3). The community will come together in Donaldson Park for live music, youth theater, activities and food. Performances will begin at 5:00 p.m. and the fireworks will begin at 9:15 p.m.

Food vendors will be on hand and local merchants will be supplying fun activities for all.

HP Gives a Hoot volunteers will be on hand to collect donations for our non-profit fund. This fund provides lunch for children during the school year when school is not in session and free summer camp scholarships. Please donate to help us continue this good work! Checks should be made out to the "Borough of Highland Park" with HP Gives a Hoot listed on the memo line. Checks can be dropped or mailed to Borough Hall, 221 South 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904.

## Highland Park First Aid Squad Community Blood Drive

The Highland Park First Aid Squad will be hosting our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Blood Drive on Wednesday, June 21 from 4:00pm – 8:30pm at the First Aid Squad building, 128 S. 11<sup>th</sup> Ave. The Blood Drive is in memory of fallen State Trooper Anthony Raspa, who was tragically killed in a car accident in 2015, while on patrol with his partner. Anthony grew up in Highland Park, where his parents still live.

If you will be attending the Blood Drive or would like to help, please contact Naomi at [naomihanoach@yahoo.com](mailto:naomihanoach@yahoo.com).

We will also be collecting nonperishable food items for the Highland Park Community Food Pantry. Unopened nonperishables are appreciated, but not required.



Day Camp begins July 5 - Enjoy science, music, arts and crafts, sports, cooking, theater, day trips, pool visits, and much, much more! Special Needs camp is an inclusive program, integrating children with special needs with camp activities, while providing supports to help them to thrive with their peers.

Sports Camp begins July 10 with 5 weeks of Sports, featuring old favorites like soccer, basketball, football, wrestling, and baseball and brand new sports like cheerleading! and a full week of Softball Camp! Cheerleading with HS Coach Taryn Weil - boys and girls will learn basic gymnastic skills, stunts, football and basketball cheers, and dance class. Softball Camp with HS Coach Lori Szentgyorgyi. Each week of Sports Camp will focus on strengthening skills, sportsmanship, teamwork, playing games, and fun! Sports Camp is open to players of all levels from grades 2-8. It features a low camper-to-instructor ratio, so both beginners and more advanced players will receive lots of coach and instructor attention.

New this year "Musical Theater Camp". A two week day camp program leading up to a performance of The Lion King Jr, with electives in 3 areas of the arts, including the producing of an art piece for display in an Art Show in the lobby prior to the performances. Theater Camp runs July 24-August 4. Spaces are limited.

Sign up for all HP Summer Camps at the Recreation Office in the Senior / Youth Center! Join us on Facebook @ Highland Park NJ Recreation for information on all current and upcoming Recreation Programming.