

The Highland Park eNews

September 18, 2017 www.hpboro.com 221 S. Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ, 08904 732-572-3400

Events & Meetings

Monday, September 18

Safe Walking & Cycling Month: Safety Video
11:00 a.m., Senior/Youth Center

Monday, September 18

Recreation Advisory
7:00 p.m., Senior/Youth Center

Monday, September 18

Commission for Universal Access
7:30 p.m., Borough Hall

Monday, September 18

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

Tuesday, September 19

Borough Council
7:00 p.m., Borough Hall

Wednesday, September 20

Bulk Trash Collection: North Side, Triangle &
Business District

Wednesday, September 20

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

Wednesday, September 23

Community Food Pantry Food Drive
10:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m., Stop & Shop

Sunday, September 24

Arts in the Park
Raritan Avenue

Tuesday, September 26

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

Tuesday, September 26

Friends of the Library Poetry Night Series
7:00 p.m., Public Library

Tuesday, September 26

Rehabilitation Screening Committee
7:00 p.m., Borough Hall

Wednesday, September 27

Bulk Trash Collection: South Side

Wednesday, September 27

Safe Walking & Cycling Month: Bike Rodeo
4:00 p.m., Behind Bartle School

Wednesday, September 27

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

Thursday, September 28

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

Thursday, September 28

Meditation Circle with Bobbie Ellis of the Soma Center
7:00 p.m., Public Library

Saturday, September 30

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

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

Subscribe to this publication at <http://goo.gl/GZpSVh>

Memo from Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler



This has been a difficult few weeks throughout the country, with hurricane devastation in both Texas and Florida, as well as many of their neighboring states. Highland Park has been sending our support in many ways; members of our Police Department traveled to Houston to help with their efforts, and community members and organizations have sent numerous supplies to the affected areas. We have always been a community that helps each other, and it is wonderful to see that support extend to our fellow Americans in other parts of the country. In fact, our Human Relations Commission is working with others in New Brunswick and Somerset to collect non-clothing supplies for victims of Hurricane Harvey in Houston. To donate, drop off items at Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Ave (Lower Level, underneath the stairwell facing the Sixth Avenue parking lot) Monday through Friday from 9am -1pm, through September. Items for donation include nonperishable foods and cleaning supplies. You can also donate through <https://www.gofundme.com/Newjerseydrive4houston>. The organizations will be driving two tractor trailers down to Houston to deliver all of the items to the 3rd ward in Houston.

Please be aware that hurricane season in New Jersey is from June through November, so be aware and prepared throughout the season. Thankfully, New Jersey and local Highland Park zoning laws do address issues like impervious coverage, riparian buffers, and steep slopes, which make for better flood preparedness than other localities in other states.

The Borough commemorated another tragic day in our country's history, 9/11, with an inspiring "Day of Discussion". We were honored to welcome Dr. Wes Bellamy, Vice-Mayor of Charlottesville, Va., to speak about standing up to hate and intolerance. Ms. Elizabeth Riley-Williams, President & CEO of the American Conference on Diversity, led our residents in meaningful sessions to discuss diversity and acceptance. We are hoping to continue these discussions throughout the coming year. Thank you to our speakers and to everyone involved in this important program, including Councilman Matt Hersh and our Human Relations Commission, chaired by Ashton Burrell.



Dr. Wes Bellamy

Ms. Elizabeth Riley-Williams

Now that everyone's back at school, it's a great time for shopping downtown at our many unique shops. Be sure to visit all our newest local stores, including Chamber 43, a new vinyl record store and Pura Vida, a women's clothing store, among others. Highland Park is proud to have a wide variety of shops and restaurants in our very walkable downtown. As you stroll our streets throughout September, don't forget to view the beautiful works of local artists in the store windows, as part of the Arts Commission's Art Walk. Speaking of art, on September 24th, Main Street is once again sponsoring the popular Arts in the Park juried art festival along Raritan Avenue.

Now that school has begun, our "HP Gives a Hoot" program is kicking into high gear, providing lunches for students when school is not in session. HP Gives a Hoot is so successful because of the generosity of our residents. Please donate to this important cause to help the children of our community. Donations can be mailed or dropped off at Borough Hall (Communications Office), 221 South 5th Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904. Checks should be made out to "Borough of Highland Park". Please write "HP Gives a Hoot" in the memo line. For questions, email igaveahoot@gmail.com.

I want to wish a Happy New Year and a meaningful holiday season to all of our Jewish residents, who are celebrating over the next several weeks.

Questions? Feedback? We want to hear from you!

Let us know what you think by writing to communications@hpboro.com

Continued on Page 2

Highland Marks



Highland Park resident **Matthew Hale** has been named a columnist of InsiderNJ. Hale, a Professor of Political Science at Seton Hall University, is a regular guest on many of New Jersey's political television and radio programs. He is a leading expert on the Environment of Public Service, Public Policy Analysis, Public Sector Leadership and Ethics, Financial Management and Budgeting, Research Methods, and Strategic Management and Governance. Hale is also the Chair of Highland Park's Digital Data Task Force.

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



On Sunday, September 10 the Safe Walking and Cycling Committee hosted a Bike Ride and Demonstration Bike Lane event where they demonstrated safety tips.

Highland Park Food Drive



The Highland Park Community Food Pantry (HPCFP) is holding a Food Drive. Bring your donations on Saturday, September 23, 10am – 1:30pm to the Stop & shop in Highland Park, the Reformed Church of Highland Park (19 S. 2nd Ave) or the Native Plant Reserve on River Road. Nonperishable foods accepted. Thank you for your valued support!

Civics for the Community Series

On September 12, the Borough held its first session in a series of civics discussions. The informative and engaging evening featured Highland Park resident Beth Stevens who spoke about how government works. Residents were able to email questions in advance, and Ms. Stevens answered the questions. The session received rave reviews. Look for the next session in the series, coming soon. Be an informed citizen with these fantastic lessons on government.

September Bulk Trash Date

Additional Bulk Trash dates have been added as a courtesy to residents after the Townwide Garage Sale. The dates are:

- ❖ Wednesday, September 20 – Business District, North Side & Triangle area
- ❖ Wednesday, September 27 – South Side

Arts in the Park

On Sunday, September 24, don't miss Main Street Highland Park's annual Arts in the Park downtown street festival, juried art show and arts and crafts sale! The festival draws thousands of art enthusiasts and visitors from around the region to stroll through downtown Highland Park and enjoy artistic offerings, live music and other entertainment, food from local restaurants, children activities, promotional booths, and much more. To learn more visit www.mainstreethp.org.



SEPTEMBER 24 11:30 AM - 4:30 PM
SUNDAY ON RARITAN AVENUE
BETWEEN SECOND & FIFTH AVE
HIGHLAND PARK, NJ MAINSTREETHP.ORG/ARTSINTHEPARK



Hurricane and Emergency Preparedness Tips



As we all know, Hurricane season is upon us. In New Jersey, the season lasts from June through November, and it is important to be prepared ahead of time. If a storm is coming, be sure to pay attention to weather forecasts and listen for official instructions, including evacuation orders. If you need assistance, call 911 for immediate help. Follow these plans to be ready for an emergency:

- ❖ Prepare an Emergency Supply Kit (for more info visit <http://ready.nj.gov/plan-prepare/your-kit-plan.shtml>.)
- ❖ Create a Personal Action Plan for your family
- ❖ Immediately take action recommended by emergency services
- ❖ Monitor local TV and radio stations for weather information
- ❖ Keep your identification handy
- ❖ Care for your pet – prepare an emergency kit for your pet

For more preparedness tips, visit the Office of Emergency Management website at <http://ready.nj.gov>.

Welcome to our New Employee

Highland Park welcomes Nerea Lafontaine as the new Borough Assistant Finance Officer. Nerea comes to Highland Park from School Business Office, LLC, where she was the Finance Manager. Prior to that, she was the Staff Accountant for three years for the Monroe Township Board of Education. Nerea lives in South Amboy with her husband, Kevin, and two children, Emily and Natalie. We are thrilled to have Nerea join our Borough team!