

# The Highland Park eNews

December 20, 2017 [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com) 221 S. Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ, 08904 732-572-3400

## Events & Meetings

**Wednesday, December 20**

HP Gives a Hoot Fundraiser  
Quaker Steak & Lube, Edison, NJ

**Wednesday, December 20**

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

**Wednesday, December 20**

Special Meeting of the Planning Board  
7:30 p.m., Borough Hall

**Wednesday, December 20**

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

**Monday, December 25**

**Christmas Day**  
**Borough Offices Closed**

**Monday, December 25**

Holiday Dinner  
1:00 – 3:00 p.m., Senior/Youth Center

**Tuesday, December 26**

Community Blood Drive  
12:00 – 7:00 p.m., Library

**Tuesday, December 26**

Happy Kwanzaa  
12:30 – 2:00 pm, 409 Raritan Ave

**Thursday, December 28**

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

**Thursday, December 28**

Spooky Handy Holiday Concert  
2:00 -4:00 p.m., Library

**Saturday, December 30**

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

**Monday, January 1**

**New Year's Day**  
**Borough Offices Closed**

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



Our first winter snows have come and gone, getting us all in the holiday mood! Throughout the winter, please be careful driving, and be aware of pedestrians and bicyclists as they shop downtown.

Speaking of downtown shopping, be sure to hit the myriad of eclectic local shops for all of your holiday gifts – including clothes, toys, jewelry, home goods, antiques, technology, and more. Or perhaps you have a foodie on your list who would relish (no pun intended) a dining certificate to one of our delicious ethnic restaurants! In addition to gifts for friends and family, remember those less fortunate by giving a donation to HP Gives a Hoot (just drop your donation off at Borough Hall, 221 S. 5th Ave), the Community Food Pantry, or the victims of Hurricane Maria in Puerto Rico. For more information about donation opportunities, visit <http://www.hpboro.com>.

This past month I was thrilled to attend the Groundbreaking Ceremony for our new Community Teen Center, to be located on South 6th Avenue and Benner Street. The center will be a home for our teens after school, where they can socialize, relax, and interact with our Police Officers in a positive environment. It is scheduled to be open in fall 2018, and promises to be a terrific place for our teens to gather.

Highland Park is so lucky to have a wonderful, caring neighbor in our own supermarket, Stop & Shop. Earlier this month I joined several Council members, Mayor's Wellness Campaign chair Dr. Cliff Lacy, and store management, as they announced the installation of a heart defibrillator, or AED, in their store. This initiative was part of Highland Park's efforts to become the first HeartSafe Municipality in New Jersey, a designation we received earlier this year. Thank you to Stop & Shop and to the Mayor's Wellness Campaign for achieving this goal.

You can help make a difference in Highland Park as well. Make your dream for Highland Park a reality, by submitting an application for the Park Partners Community Grant Program. If you have a program or idea that will benefit the community, this grant offers the opportunity to receive funds to execute your idea. And, every resident can vote for the winning projects in our Voting Session on February 25th. Look for more information coming soon.

One of our most successful efforts in Highland Park is our Public Arts Program, sponsored by the Arts Commission, Artists Collective, and Main Street Highland Park. Recently, the Borough was awarded Honorable Mention in the League of Municipality's Innovations in Governance Award for our Public Arts Program. The group shares my vision for bringing the arts to everyone.

Highland Parkers love a creative purchase. This year you came out in droves to support our local businesses and from the recent pop-up shops and food trucks appearing downtown. Many of our retailers saw new sales and activity. Thanks go out to Main Street Highland Park for adding this new attraction to our downtown. Residents of all religions and cultures came out to celebrate the beginning of the holiday season at our annual Tree Lighting and Menorah Lighting. Next, on December 26, come out to celebrate Kwanzaa at Kinetics (409 Raritan Avenue) as well! It is a testament to our welcoming community that we can all celebrate together.

I look forward to seeing you at our winter events, and shopping in the downtown this holiday season.

Questions? Feedback? We want to hear from you!

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

Continued on Page 2

### Highland Marks

Two members of Highland Park’s Boy Scout Troop 55 recently became Eagle Scouts, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. **Simcha Lev Abrahams** and **Jacob Kleinmann** earned the ranking by participating in programs that benefitted the Environmental Commission. The Eagle Scout designation was founded over one hundred years ago, and only 4% of Boy scouts are granted this rank after a lengthy review process. The Highland Park Boy Scout Troop 55, sponsored by the Highland Park Conservative Temple (Congregation Anshe Emeth), has been in Highland Park since the 1930s.

**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)**



**Unity Bank Assistant Vice President and Relations Manager Julie Homann presented the Highland Park Community Food Pantry with a \$1,300.00 donation to help in providing support to the growing number of households in HP who need food. Many thanks for supporting our community!**

### Holiday Season Safety

Celebrating holidays and giving gifts are part of the joy of this season. Unfortunately, sometimes in the midst of this busy time, injuries and mishaps can occur. For example, the NJ Poison Control Center sent over 30 children to hospital emergency rooms this year for swallowing disc batteries. Keep you and your family safe by following these safety tips:

- Disc Batteries – Found in watches, toys, games, flashing costume jewelry, singing greeting cards, remote control devices, etc. They are easy to swallow and can cause serious harm to children and pets.
- Toys – Antiques and those made outside the United States may contain lead or other toxic substances. Look for chipping or worn paint before letting children play with them. Toys can also be a choking hazard for children and pets.
- Small Magnets – If a child consumes two or more magnets, they can attract each other, resulting in serious harm to internal organs. Get help immediately.
- Alcohol – Even ingesting a small amount of alcohol can be fatal to children or pets. Empty beverage glasses and place them out of reach of children and pets.
- E-cigarette Devices and Liquid Nicotine – Liquid nicotine can be fatal to small children and pets. Keep products and refills locked up, out of sight and reach.
- Medicine – Lock medicines in a safe, out of sight place, where children and pets cannot get to them.
- Lamp Oils – If ingested, oils can get into lungs, causing pneumonia or even death.
- Pets – Keep chocolate, cocoa, candy and sugarless gum, yeast bread dough, fatty meat scraps, food with raisins and currants, alcohol and illicit drugs out of reach of your pets.
- Fire Salts – Can cause serious stomach problems if ingested.
- Carbon Monoxide – This odorless, invisible, tasteless gas can kill! Have detectors on every level of your home and near every sleeping area, and make sure your house is well-vented.

For more information on product and holiday safety, visit <http://www.njpies.org>.

If you have a concern or emergency, call the Poison Help Number at 1-800-222-1222.



### Winter Recess Lunch Program

If you are in grades (K-12) and need lunch during winter recess. Stop by the Senior/Youth Center, 220 South 6<sup>th</sup> Ave on December 26 - 29 and pick up a bite to eat between the hours of 11:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. No voucher is needed during Winter Break. This program is sponsored by H.P. Park Gives a Hoot.

Please complete our short survey at <https://www.facebook.com/hpgivesahoot/> or [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com), so we know how many children to expect each day.

If you would like to help us continue this good work, please donate! Checks should be payable to “Borough of Highland Park” with “HP Gives a Hoot” written in the memo line and can be dropped off or mailed to the Borough of Highland Park, 221 South 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Highland Park, NJ 08904.

### Garbage Collection Schedule Change

Borough offices will be closed on Monday, December 25 and Monday, January 1. The Garbage collection is as follows:

- **Monday - Borough Offices Closed**
- Tuesday – Business District, North Side & Triangle recycling collection
- Wednesday – Business District, North Side & Triangle garbage collection
- Thursday – South Side recycling collection
- Friday – Business District & South Side garbage collection

### Meaningful Gifts This Holiday Season



Giving and receiving presents is one of the joys of the holiday season. While shopping for friends and family, think about giving to those less fortunate as well.

Highland Park offers a number of ways to help others this holiday season – and throughout the year. Consider a donation to the following:

- **Highland Park Community Food Pantry** – Tribute Cards can be ordered at [highlandparkfoodpantry@gmail.com](mailto:highlandparkfoodpantry@gmail.com) or call Andrea Greenberg at 732-828-9943
- **HP Gives a Hoot** – Send a donation made out to Borough of Highland Park, 221 South Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ 08904 (write “HP Gives a Hoot” in Memo line)
- **Tree Dedication Program** – Visit <http://www.hpboro.com> to download a dedication form
- **Collection for Puerto Rico** – Donations of specific items collected at Borough Hall, 221 South Fifth Avenue. Place donations in recycling bins on lower level of building under the stairs

**\*\*Items needed\*\***

- |                       |                           |
|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Queen size sheet sets | Solar lamps               |
| Towels                | Flash lights              |
| Solar bulbs           | Ladies pants (size 15/16) |
| Size D Batteries      | Ladies Summer Shirts (XL) |