

The Highland Park eNews

February 16, 2016 www.hpboro.com 221 S. Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ, 08904 732-572-3400

Events & Meetings

Tuesday, February 16

Council Committee
7:00 pm, Borough Hall

Wednesday, February 17

Human Relations Commission
7:00 pm, Borough Hall

Saturday, February 20

Opening the Door to Poetry with Jim Haba
7:00 pm, Public Library

Sunday, February 21

Park Partners Voting Session
3:00 pm, Senior/Youth/Center

Monday, February 22

Zoning Board of Adjustment
7:30 pm, Borough Hall

Wednesday, February 24

Sustainable Highland Park
7:30 pm, Environmental Education Center

Thursday, February 25

Kind Strangers Blue Grass Concert
7:00 pm, Public Library

Tuesday, March 1

Public Information Committee
6:00 pm, Borough Hall

Tuesday, March 1

Council Committee
7:00 pm, Borough Hall

Wednesday, March 2

Environmental Commission
8:00 pm, Environmental Education Center

Thursday, March 3

Commission for Universal Access
7:30 pm, Borough Hall

Thursday, March 3

Redevelopment Agency
7:30 pm, Borough Hall

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

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Council Update from Councilwoman Elsie Foster-Dublin



Highland Park has always been a community that takes care of our neighbors, and our various public safety departments focus on protecting residents and educating citizens about safety issues. The departments also value the importance of educating their employees and volunteers regarding cultural and diversity issues, to better help them serve the community.

To that end, we were pleased to welcome former Plainfield Police Captain Siddeeq El-Amim to our community recently. The Captain conducted cultural diversity training for our Officers, focusing on the changing composition of neighborhoods that require Police Officers to interact with various, multi-cultural and ethnic members of the community.

In addition to these educational seminars, the Highland Park Police Department received a grant of \$7,500 from the Body Worn Camera Assistance Program to purchase BWCs. This will help equip our Police with the tools they need to face modern challenges while protecting residents. They enhance transparency, promote accountability, and advance public safety for Officers and the communities they serve.

We would like residents to be aware of two important programs from the public safety departments. First is the AMBER Alert. An AMBER Alert is issued when there is reason to believe that a child under the age of 18 has been abducted and may be in danger. Please be aware of AMBER Alerts in our area. The Highland Park Police Department also wants to make residents aware of the "If You See Something, Say something" program. This is a national campaign that raises public awareness of the indicators of terrorism and terrorism-related crime, and stresses the importance of reporting suspicious activity to state and local law enforcement. To report suspicious activity, contact the Police and describe what you observed. If there is an emergency, dial 9-1-1.

The Borough values the positive relationship between our Police Department and residents, and continues to encourage open communication. Our initiatives begun last year, such as the Public Forums, Police Youth Officer, and Helmet Program, have enabled us to make great strides in this communication and cooperation, and we look forward to another positive year.

Highland Park Teen Center



Plans are moving forward for our new Highland Park Teen Center, set to open in the Fall of 2016. The Borough purchased a property at 203 South 6th Avenue to be used for the new Teen Center, and demolition on the existing house was completed earlier this month.

The Teen Center will allow high school students to have a place of their own for afterschool activities, programs and tutoring. It is part of the Borough's ongoing efforts to help ensure the success and wellbeing of our young residents.

Questions? Feedback? We want to hear from you!

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

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Highland Marks



Highland Park resident and Borough employee Ashton Burrell has been selected as the 2016 recipient of the Community Service Award at the 38th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Observance Celebration. The award, sponsored by Johnson & Johnson, recognizes a member of the community who demonstrates a passion for others through service. Ashton will be presented the award by Award Winning Actor Blair Underwood. Congratulations on this outstanding honor!

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

School News!



Every month the Board of Education recognizes a student for their outstanding work either in school and or within the community. The following students have been recognized so far:

- Elisabeth Landis** and **Maria Alejandra Pena**- High School
- De’Angelena Belton** – Middle School
- Jin Rui Zhao** – Bartle Elementary School
- Dorian Crocco** – Irving Primary School

The Main Street Minute

Run or Walk the Highland Park 5k & Kids Races!
Sunday May 1, 2016, 9:00 am

The Highland Park 5k race is back for its 8th year! Come take a run around Highland Park, all for great causes. Race proceeds to benefit the Borough of Highland Park Police, Fire, First Aid, and Recreation departments; the Highland Park Public Library; and Main Street Highland Park. Online registration can be found here: <http://runinthepark.org/>.

Want to Sponsor the 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 considering being an event sponsor! More information here: <http://runinthepark.org/>

Save the Date for the Annual HP “Spring Fling” Street Fair
Sunday May 1, 2016, 11:30 am – 4:30 pm

The Annual Highland Park Spring Fling Street Fair is one of Highland Park’s signature events, and features something for everyone. It has crafters, vendors, artists, music, food, games, inflatable rides, and more. Admission is free! Vendor applications can be found at <https://goo.gl/MNeBhs>. Vendor fees have been reduced for Highland Park businesses this year! Don’t miss the chance to be part of the fun.

Learn more about these events and more at www.mainstreethp.org or www.facebook.com/MainStreetHP

Garbage Collection Schedule (week of 2/15 – 2/19)

- February 15 (Monday) - Holiday
- February 16 (Tuesday) - Business District, North Side & Triangle Recycling Collection
- February 17 (Wednesday) – Business District, North Side & Triangle Garbage Collection
- February 18 (Thursday) – South Side Recycling Collection
- February 19 (Friday) - Business District & South Side Garbage Collection

“ Park Partners Voting Session 2016”

Come out and vote for your favorite Park Partners Community Grant programs! On **Sunday, February 21, 3-4pm** at the Senior/Youth Center, applicants will present their programs to win up to \$2000 to execute a program to benefit our community.

Programs include:

- Arts: Highland Park Magazine, Adult Theater Program
- Environment: Watershed Cleanup and Sculpture Project, “Waste-Free HP” Educational Program, Native Plant Restoration, Scientific Tree Signs Plaques
- Universal Access or Health & Wellness: Sustainable Living Educational Series, CuttingOutHunger
- Culture & Diversity: Book Distribution Program, International Folk Music Concert and Dance

Every resident of Highland Park – regardless of age – has one vote in each category. Support your favorite project to benefit our town!

Dog Training with Humans-Trainer Kris Collins



Next training session will be on Thursday, March 17 at 7:00 PM at the Library.

Recently, on a cold and chilly night, a group of Highland Park dog owners gathered in the cozy Library meeting room to put questions to Professional Dog Trainer Kris Collins. A petite, new dog owner was the first to ask advice. “My morning walk is being ruined by my young golden retriever. She is very friendly and wants to stop and jump on everyone we meet.” Kris explained that the most important first step is to get the dog’s attention and change the behavior pattern.

The private dog trainer has owned three canines throughout his life. He worked two years for a dog daycare center and earned a degree from Animal Behavior College.

“What I aim to do is train the dog and teach the human. Not just train the dog to know a few human words, but train them to enjoy performing the words on command as well as create a desire within them to want to learn more human commands. So in short, I try to teach long term engagement between dog and human.”

Free Tax Assistance



If you made less than \$60k in 2015 you can get your taxes done free by an IRS Certified Volunteer provided by United Way. Visit the Borough’s website at <http://www.hpboro.com> for more information. By appointment only! Call the Senior/Youth Center at 732-819-0052.