

# The Highland Park eNews

January 20, 2015 [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com)

221 S. Fifth Avenue, Highland Park, NJ, 08904

732-572-3400

## Events & Meetings

**Tuesday, January 20**

Council Committee  
7:00 pm, Borough Hall

**Thursday, January 22**

Ask the Dog Trainer: Dog Training 101  
7:00 pm, Public Library

**Monday, January 26**

Zoning Board of Adjustment  
Reorganization  
7:30 pm, Borough Hall

**Tuesday, January 27**

Life Saving Community Blood Drive  
1:00 – 7:00 pm, Public Library

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



Happy New Year Highland Park! I hope everybody had a happy and healthy holiday season. Once again Highland Park hosted several special holiday events, including the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Hanukkah Menorah Lighting, and the Kwanzaa Celebration and Kinara Lighting. These events were a beautiful representation of our diversity and appreciation for our different cultures in our wonderful town.

We have planned some exciting things for the coming year. Now that PSE&G installed brighter lights in our downtown (free of charge), we can utilize our downtown even more during the day and night. I encourage you to do so! Our restaurants are brimming with delicious ethnic foods. And, more of our downtown retailers are staying open later. Plus, our Complete Streets status and our smoother, walkable sidewalks make it easier than ever to get around town by foot. And, just think of the health benefits a walkable community offers each of us!

One of the most exciting year-end "presents" we received was a special Innovation in Governance Award for our Park Partners Community Grant Program from the NJ League of Municipalities. This program was a huge success last year, and this year promises to be just as thrilling! Earlier this month we held our 2015 Park Partners Voting Fair, during which nearly 350 residents came out to vote for their favorite projects to receive a Borough grant...100+ more voters than last year! It was an exciting event, and the applicants' presentations were impressive. Three of the winning programs were initiated by our young high school and middle school students in the community, and it is heartwarming to see young people get so involved in Highland Park. The winning programs include the Highland Park High School and Middle School Orchestra, Project Enrich HP from the Environmental Club of Highland Park High School, CuttingOutHunger (also a winner from 2014 and created by our high school and middle schoolers), Community Library for Touchstone Discussion Project Groups and Family Den's "Healthy Active Kids". Read all about these programs on Facebook and the Highland Park website, [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com).

This month we also said a fond farewell to one of our Council Members, Padraic Millet, and thanked him for his dedication and service to our community over the years. We welcome new Council Member Josh Fine, who brings an enthusiasm and new ideas to our town. This transition occurred at our Reorganization Meeting, after which we had a fantastic "Thank You Highland Park" party at Pino's to celebrate our many active volunteers. I sincerely thank each of you who volunteer to make Highland Park so special.

Stay warm this winter! Keep moving and pay attention to winter weather alerts via Nixle, Facebook, reverse 911, and the website.

**Questions? Feedback? We want to hear from you!**

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

## Borough Council Reorganizes for 2015

The Highland Park Borough Council held its annual reorganization meeting January 6. The annual event reaffirms council assignments as well as ratifies new positions and responsibilities on the Borough level.

Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler, Councilwoman Elsie Foster-Dublin, Councilman Josh Fine, and Councilman Phil George were all sworn into new terms, and Councilwoman Susan Welkovits was selected to serve a one-year term as Council President.

"As we head into 2015 you will see a commitment to open and transparent government, smart and planned growth with attention to our infrastructure needs, downtown development, and improved quality of life opportunities, all while extending efforts to stabilize our taxes," said Mayor Brill Mittler in her State of the Town address.

"Join me in ensuring that Highland Park remain the welcoming, diverse, creative community we have all come to love and call our home," she said.

To read the mayor's entire State of the Town address, go to [www.hpboro.com](http://www.hpboro.com).



Congratulations to Highland Park resident Frances McDonald, recipient of the 2015 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award, issued by the Highland Park Human Relations Commission. Pictured, from left, are: Highland Park Mayor Gayle Brill Mittler; Assemblywoman Nancy Pinkin; Council President Susan Welkovits; Frances McDonald; Senator Peter Barnes; Human Relations Commission Chairperson Sheila Highsmith; Assemblyman Patrick Diegnan, and Middlesex County Sheriff Mildred Scott.

- **Save the date** -

**The 5K Street Fair will be on Sunday (5/03)**

**For more information visit [www.mainstreethp.org](http://www.mainstreethp.org)**

## New Business in Highland Park

The Borough welcomes several new and "improved" businesses in our downtown! Check out these great places, as well as our many unique and diverse shops and restaurants: Ackerman Healthcare Supply, 425 Raritan Ave, The Bridge Restaurant featuring Istanbul and Turkish cuisine, 315 Raritan Ave, Indus Grill featuring Indian cuisine, 312 Raritan Ave, and Make Me Take Me's expanded storefront, 246 Raritan Ave.

## Spotlight on DPW

Highland Park's Department of Public Works is responsible for maintenance throughout town, including streets and street signs, storm sewers, Borough buildings and grounds, recycling, sanitation, shade tree and snow removal. The dedicated DPW employees work hard to keep our community clean and safe.

The DPW wants to remind you that bulk trash pick-up is scheduled for the month of February 2015:

- o Business District, North Side & Triangle - February 4
- o South Side - February 5

### Acceptable Items

The following items are examples of acceptable bulk waste and are not collected with the regular garbage collection:

- **Furniture** – sofas, chairs, tables, clothing dressers, bookshelves, mattresses, and box springs.
- **Fixtures** – toilets, tanks, tubs, sink basins
- **Carpet** – rolls under four feet in length, tied securely in bundles not to exceed 18 inches in diameter
- **Home Improvement Materials** – small amounts of material from self improvement projects only: Contractor generated material will not be accepted. Material will be accepted with the following limits:
  - o Four small bundles of wood, under four feet in length, tied securely in bundles not to exceed 18 inches in diameter, nails removed
  - o Five window frames, with glass removed
  - o Bundles of sheet rock or paneling, securely bound or one container of broken sheet rock, with a 50 lb weight limit for bundle or container
  - o Unacceptable Items
  - o Two Doors

### We do not collect / accept at any time the following:

Dirt, Concrete, Roofing materials, Hazardous materials, Automotive parts or scraps

### Snow Covered Streets

Please be aware that when snow is in the forecast, please observe all "No Parking When Road is Snow Covered" regulations. Violators will have their vehicles removed from those streets.