

The Highland Park eNews

March 2, 2015

www.hpboro.com

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

732-572-3400

Events & Meetings

Tuesday, March 3

Films from the 1970's - Jaws
6:30 pm, Public Library

Tuesday, March 3

Council Committee
7:00 pm, Borough Hall

Wednesday, March 4

Morning Stretch Class
7:00 am, Kinetics Personal Training

Wednesday, March 4

Community Food Pantry
7:00 pm, Senior/Youth Center

Thursday, March 5

Commission for Universal Access
7:30 pm, Borough Hall

Wednesday, March 11

Morning Stretch Class
7:00 am, Kinetics Personal

Wednesday, March 11

Shade Tree /Environmental Commission
8:00 pm, Environmental Education Ctr

Thursday, March 12

Board of Health
7:00 pm, Borough Hall

Thursday, March 12

Planning Board
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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<http://www.hpboro.com/list.aspx>

Memo from Council President Susan Welkovits



Highland Park is gearing up for spring by embracing and developing environmental initiatives. We are pleased to have received 36 requests for shade trees, and planting will begin in the spring. To request a tree, please visit the Shade Tree link at <http://www.hpboro.com/DocumentCenter/Home/View/307> and complete a form for either a fall planting or next spring. Special thanks to our dedicated volunteers who keep our Meadow Trails beautiful. Support their hard work by enjoying a hike in the trails or coming out to assist them on Saturdays or Sundays at 10am. And, of course, save the date for our annual and highly successful Earth Day program, Sunday, April 19 at the Eugene Young Environmental Education Center on River Road. Come out for musicians, hands-on demonstrations, food, entertainment and participation by various organizations, including Lower Raritan Watershed Partnership (LRWP). LRWP is a new emerging organization that works to help clean up Raritan River. For more information visit their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/lowerraritanwatershed. The Borough is also supporting our schools in their Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification.

We are looking forward to the upcoming programs sponsored by Enrich HP, a 2015 Park Partners winner. Three documentaries will be screened at our Library on April 2, 9 and 23, 6:30pm. Films are about environmental issues.

In addition to our environmental programs, we are excited to be partnering with the Greater Plainfield chapter of Habitat for Humanity to build a Habitat House. After much planning, the groundbreaking for construction will be held in late April, and we are seeking volunteers to help build this home. Anyone age 16 or older is able to assist with the construction.

Now that the warm weather is on its way, we stress to our residents and visitors to get out and walk through our downtown and neighborhoods. Highland Park is an ideal walking community, and we encourage you to get out of your cars and walk or bike! Please be safe while walking – utilize our newly repaired sidewalks on the side streets, and our wide, welcoming sidewalks, as well as our bicycle sharrows, on Raritan Avenue. Remain on the sidewalks while walking, and cross at crosswalks and lights.

We look forward to continued growth and development this spring, and welcome volunteers, suggestions and feedback from all of our residents.

**LOOK FOR THE SPRING EDITION OF THE HP NEWS
ARRIVING IN YOUR MAILBOX EARLY MARCH 2015**

Questions? Feedback? We want to hear from you!

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

Borough Receives Safe Routes to School Grant

The Borough received a \$69,000 grant from the Department of Transportation for improvements in the area of the Bartle School through the Safe Routes to School grant.

In July 2005, Congress passed federal legislation that established a National Safe Routes to School program to improve children's safety while walking and bicycling to school. The grant helps communities build sidewalks, bicycle paths and pedestrian-friendly infrastructure, reduce speeds in school zones and neighborhoods, address distracted driving among drivers of all ages and education generations on pedestrian and bicycle safety.

Highland Park will be utilizing the grant to install pedestrian lights at the crosswalk between Borough Hall and Bartle School on South 5th Avenue to make the area safer for our students in the area of the Bartle School through the Safe.

HPTV Channel 15 (for Cablevision customers)

Highlights for March 2014

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETINGS

Tuesday & Thursday 1pm, 7pm, 10pm; Saturday & Sunday 1pm

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETINGS

Monday 8:30pm; Wednesday 10am, 7pm; Saturday & Sunday 4pm

HIGHLAND PARK SHOWCASE

Profiles of Highland Park residents, events and businesses
Monday, Saturday & Sunday 12 noon & 8pm

HIGHLAND PARK UPDATE

Highlights of the month's developments in HP council and BOE meetings.
Saturday, Sunday, Monday 7:30pm; Monday and Wednesday, 12:30pm

PUBLIC DOMAIN DOMAIN

Public domain movies and television.
Saturday & Sunday, 8:30pm; Tuesday and Thursday 10am & 4pm

PUBLIC DOMAIN DOMAIN – OTR

Old time radio shows
Saturday & Sunday 10am; Monday & Thursdays 10am & 4pm

ACCESS NEW JERSEY

Tuesday & Thursday 3pm and 9pm; Saturday & Sunday 3pm

AGING INSIGHTS

Monday, Thursday, Saturday & Sunday 11:30pm & 6pm

CLASSROOM CLOSE-UP

Monday, Wednesday 12:30pm & 6:30pm; Sunday 6:30pm

HEALTH TALK

Monday 1pm & 6:30pm; Thursday, Saturday & Sunday 6:30pm

SPOTLIGHT ON MIDDLESEX COUNTY

Tuesday & Thursday 3:30pm & 9:30pm; Saturday and Sunday 3:30pm

VALLEY HOMEGROWN MUSIC/CLASSIC ARTS SHOWCASE

Concerts, performances, art.
Saturday & Sunday 10pm

Friends of the Library Poetry Night Series



Sam Friedman, Author

The Friends of the Library Poetry Night Series is celebrating its 10th anniversary on Tuesday, March 24, 7:30pm with a reading from award winning poet Norman Stock. Norman has deep roots in NJ as a former Acquisitions Librarian at Montclair State University and as a recipient of his Masters in Library Science from Rutgers University. He has been a poet for nearly half a century and has published two books and is the recipient of numerous awards. He has also been a Bread Loaf fellow, a Sewanee scholar, and a finalist for Poet Laureate of Queens.

On Tuesday, April 21, 7:30pm the Library will welcome Bedminster poet Wanda S. Praisner. An early education teacher for nearly three decades, Wanda began writing poems in 1985 after the death of her son. She has published three collections of poems and has been a featured reader at the Governor's Conference on the Arts and the Geraldine R. Dodge Poetry Festival. She is currently a poet in residence for the NJ State Council on the Arts.

Sam Friedman is a Senior Research Fellow at the Institute for AIDS Research, a Senior Research Associate at the Department of Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins University, and a member of the Central Jersey Coalition Against Endless War, and on Tuesday, May 26, 7:30pm he will recite his poetry at the HP Library. Sam has been an activist in the Civil Rights movement since 1959 and has published several books. For more information about Library events contact 732-572-2750 or visit hplnj.org.

Highland Park's Native Plant Reserve



As you drive or walk along River Road, look towards the river at the foot of Harrison Ave. The field and the trees that you see are part of the Native Plant Reserve. This one-and-a-half acre site began in 1994 as an Urban Forestry Demonstration Project funded by a grant from Middlesex County. The goals of the project were to enhance forest growth, provide for erosion control and stream bank stabilization, restore wildlife habitat, and reduce flooding problems. The Shade Tree Advisory Committee supervised the initial transformation of the gravel-covered property by planting twenty-one native trees and forty native shrubs. The committee has continued to maintain the reserve by planting native flowers and shrubs and removing non-native invasive plants that persist in showing up uninvited. Each small red flag that you see throughout the reserve marks a new native plant that has been recently planted. Keep an eye on their progress this spring!

Highland Park now enjoys a local chapter of the Native Plant Society of New Jersey whose members have donated and planted many new native plants in the reserve. For more information, contact Mary at highlanpark@npsnj.org. The Native Plant Reserve is part of the New Jersey Green Acres Program and therefore protected from development.