

Housing Authority of the
Borough of Highland Park
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Housing Authority of the Borough of Highland Park



December, 2016

THE HIGHLANDER

FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

Hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving and that you are now preparing for and looking forward to the most wonderful time of the year! The colors, smells and sounds of the season are infectious and just impossible to resist or pass by! Put out those decorations...hum your favorite carol and join in the festivities!

The Resident Council has a lovely year end holiday party planned for you. Please sign up and don't miss the fun!

On a personal note, we had the most amazing and blessed experience in Israel. We took an extensive and exhausting tour around the country, seeing and experiencing all the historic landmarks. I came away learning so much about the special and beautiful land of Israel. This trip was an experience we will never forget.

Happy Holidays to you all!

RUNI SRIWARDENA



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Let's take a minute to read about some great holiday traditions!

For Hanukkah.....

Menorah: Commemorate the miracle that a one-day supply of oil lasted for 8 days. Light the nine-branched menorah to represent the miracle and one of the many Hanukkah traditions and customs. Make sure to have candles available for each of the eight nights of Hanukkah. Practice the traditional Hanukkah prayers and recite them when you light the menorah.

For Christmas.....

The Advent Calendar is believed to have been created by Christians in the early 19th century to mark the days of Advent leading up to Christmas. The Advent calendar counts down the 24 days of Christmas ending on Christmas eve. It is a great way to engage the kids in the entire Christmas season by helping them channel their anticipation and excitement of Christmas Day while keeping that anticipation focused on the birth of the baby Jesus. Some Advent calendars have doors that open to reveal a symbol of Advent and Christmas, while others have symbols that are individually placed on the calendar for each day.

For Kwanzaa.....

Each day of Kwanzaa represents one of the seven principles. The Kwanzaa celebrants are encouraged to discuss, meditate on and dedicate themselves to a different concept each day:
1). Unity 2). Self-determination 3). Collective work and responsibility 4). Cooperative Economics 5). A commitment to upholding Black History and Heritage 6). Creativity 7). Faith.
During the evening candle lighting, everyone in the group explains what the days' principles means to them and how they try to apply it that day.



RENT

Rent is due on the 1st.



If you are using the rent box, your check must be in the box before 4 PM on **December 7th**.

After 4 PM it is late—No exceptions!

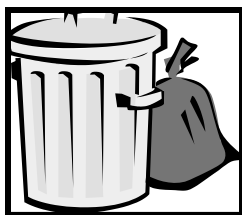
*** **Important*****

- ♦ Do not post-date your checks. When a check is received by the Housing Authority, it must be deposited within 48 hours. We cannot deposit checks that are post-dated and cannot hold them until the following month. If you have a third party paying your rent please make sure your name & apartment number is on the check or money order.

ATTENTION

ALL RESIDENTS!

**THE NEXT BULK
PICK-UP IN
HIGHLAND PARK IS
ON DECEMBER 14th, 2016**



THIS MONTH IN HISTORY

December 1, 1822—Dom Pedro, founder of the Brazilian Empire, was crowned as the first Emperor of Brazil.
December 1, 1955—The birth of the modern American Civil Rights Movement occurred as Rosa Parks was arrested in Montgomery, Alabama, for refusing to give up her seat to a white man and move to the back section of a municipal bus.
December 2, 1859—Abolitionist leader John Brown was executed for treason at Charles Town, West Virginia, following his raid on the U.S Arsenal at Harper's Ferry.
December 2, 1982—The first permanent artificial heart was implanted in 61-year old Barney C. Clark by Dr. William DeVries at the University of Utah Medical Center in Salt Lake City. Clark, who was near death at the time of the operation, survived 112 days after the implantation.

Submitted by: Bonnie Bonanno

NEW RESIDENT COUNCIL

THE NEW COUNCIL IS REQUIRED TO HOLD A TENANT'S ASSOCIATION MEETING EVERY MONTH. THESE MEETINGS WILL BE HELD ON THE LAST WEDNESDAY OF EVERY MONTH AT 4:00 PM. PLEASE MAKE AN EFFORT TO ATTEND AND LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AHEAD:

December 28, 2016	July 26, 2017
January 25, 2017	August 30, 2017
February 22, 2017	September 27, 2017
March 29, 2017	October 25, 2017
April 26, 2017	
May 31, 2017	
June 28, 2017	

All meetings to be held in the Community room and will begin at 4:00 pm.

Bonnie, Chuck, Joanne, Michelle

GOOD ADVICE FROM OUR TENANT SERVICES COORDINATOR AND SOCIAL WORKER, KETTLY GILLES

Prevention and Wellness

As we age, we can help prevent serious illness by being proactive about our health. Being proactive means getting regular checkups and seeing a doctor right away if you notice something doesn't look or feel right.

Preventative Measures

Get checkups and screenings that include:

Colonoscopy	Cholesterol	Blood Pressure	Weight Check
Moles	Blood Sugar	Vision	Immunizations

Blood Tests

The following blood tests should be done with every physical exam:

CBC & Differential	Blood Glucose	Renal Panel	Lipid Panel
Liver Panel	Urinalysis		

Activity Calendar

Coffee Klatch – Wednesday, December 7 @ 10:30 AM

Birthday Bash – TBA

A Special THANK YOU to Runi Sriwardena for the Delicious Thanksgiving Meal she shared with the Staff & Residents.

**Wishing you all: Happy Hanukah, Merry Christmas, and Happy Kwanzaa &
Happy New Year!!!**

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- December 7th—SK Café Chocolate Chip Cookie Sale
- December 7th—Coffee Klatch at 10:30 AM
- December 14th—Tenant Meeting at 3 pm (By Management & Maintenance)
- December 14th—Board Meeting 6:30 PM
- December 15th—Holiday Party 12 Noon
- Mondays, Wednesday & Fridays—SK Café at 10:30
- Fridays—TGIF Sharing Group after SK Cafe



Thanks....Thanks....Thanks.....

- Thanks to Bonnie and the SK Café group for the little cookie and cupcake sales which gives so many people the opportunity to taste good 'ole fashioned home baked items!
- Thanks to all who came down to decorate for the holidays. You did a great job!

A Big Thank You!

A Big thank you to Tom Domke (5-L) for donating a small stereo music system for the community room. Tom, you heard the Resident Council would have had to purchase one and you immediately came forward to help and you donated us this music system. We appreciate your kindness and also for agreeing to provide non-stop music for our holiday party on the 15th. Thanks for going above and beyond for your neighbors!

CONGRATULATIONS!



Congratulations to Karin Jackson who designed this card which is the official card being used by the Food Pantry for their donation campaign cards.

We are proud of you Karin!

CHEF'S CORNER

Grands Monkey Bread

Ingredients

1/2 cup granulated sugar
1 teaspoon cinnamon
2 cans (16.3 oz each) Pillsbury Grands Flaky Layers refrigerated Original Biscuits
1/2 cup chopped walnuts, if desired
1/2 cup raisins, if desired
1 cup firmly packed brown sugar
3/4 cup butter or margarine, melted

Directions:

Heat oven to 350. Lightly grease 12-cup fluted tube pan with shortening or cooking spray. In large storage plastic food bag, mix granulated sugar and cinnamon.

Separate dough into 16 biscuits; cut into quarters. Shake in bag to coat. Arrange in pan, adding walnuts and raisins among the biscuit pieces.

In a small bowl, mix brown sugar and butter, pour over biscuit pieces.

Bake 30-35 minutes or until golden brown and no longer doughy in the center. Cool in pan for 10 minutes. Turn upside down onto serving platter; pull apart to serve.

Serve warm.



SPECIAL DAYS OF DECEMBER

7th Pearl Harbor Day
12th Poinsettia Day
21st Winter Solstice (shortest day of the year)
23rd Festivus—for the rest of us!
24th Chanukah lasts 8 days
25th Christmas
26th Kwanzaa
27th National Fruitcake Day
31st New Year's Eve

December is National Political Correctness, National Drugged and Drunk Driving Prevention, Aids Awareness and National Tie Month.

December in other Languages:

Hindi: Disambar

Italian: Dicembre

Scottish: an Dubhlachd

How it was named: December was originally the 10th month of the Roman calendar until King Numa Pompilius added January and February in 13 BC. Its name comes from the Latin word "decem" meaning ten.

Full Moon: Tuesday, December 13th, known as the Full Cold Moon

Birth Flower: Narcissus and Holly

Birthstone: Blue turquoise

SMILE AWHILE.....

*What is the best holiday present in the world?
A drum, you can't beat it.*

*How many presents can be stuffed in an empty stocking?
One, after that it is not empty anymore.*

*Why is it so cold during the holidays?
Because it is in Decemberrrrrrrr!!*



1912 INAUGURAL MAYORAL ADDRESS BY HIGHLAND PARK MAYOR LORENZ VOLKERT —SEE HOW FAR HIGHLAND PARK HAS COME!!!



To the Honorable, the Council of the Borough of Highland Park:

Gentlemen:

As directed by the law under which our borough is governed, I desire at this time to recommend such measures as seem necessary and expedient for the welfare of the borough and in this my fifth annual message, I desire to mention some of the improvements which have been acted on during the last year, also some of which have not.

We have arranged with the Public Services Company, whereby we are given light every night in the year from sunset to sunrise.

Second Ave, on the Southerly side of Raritan Ave, have been graded and concrete walks laid. On First Ave, the work of laying concrete walks is nearly completed and will be continued as soon as the weather permits. An ordinance has been passed for the laying of concrete walks on Raritan Ave, and curbing the same, and we are promised that the Freeholders will pave this street in the Spring. We are very glad to know that the sidewalks on the Albany St. bridge are to be widened. This is a much needed improvement and the city of New Brunswick will be benefitted as well as Highland Park. This improvement is been secured by the influence and untiring efforts of our worthy representative on the Board of Freeholders.

In addition to the above named, there have been other improvements that have benefitted the entire Park and which have called for the expenditure of money, but in every case care has been taken to make the administration economical as well as thorough.

I wish to appeal to the civic pride of every citizen and urge him to co-operate with the Council in all matters pertaining to the welfare of our borough.

The Mayor and Council desire not only to do what is best for the borough, but to do it in a manner which will be most convenient and most satisfactory to the citizens and tax payers, and their friendly help, advice and cooperation would be very much appreciated.

One of the first things to which I wish to call your attention is the matter of police protection. I think that the borough has reached a stage where it should have one or two uniformed policemen, and this matter should be attended to immediately.

Then also I wish to call your attention to the matter of fire protection. I have mentioned this in every message but nothing has been done toward bettering the conditions in our inadequate fire protection. I am sure that if we had a fire which consumed a large part of the borough, the Council would immediately take action on this matter. But why wait for a great conflagration? Our citizens have the right to demand fire protection as well as police protection and it is the duty of the Council to see that they get it.

-Continued on Page 7

When we have our uniformed policemen, we should have an ordinance by which he is given the authority to shoot all stray dogs which are not muzzled unless they are accompanied by the owner.

There should also be an ordinance by which chickens and other domestic animals running on large on the streets should be impounded and sold if the fees are not paid.

I think we have done very well in the matter of improving the sidewalks and we should not stop until every sidewalk in the borough is concrete or stone.

We should not slight the roads in pushing the sidewalk improvements and I believe that the time has come when stone should be used instead of cinders and the work should be done systematically one street after another and curbs would make the work of keeping the streets in good condition much easier.

It is essential that we take some steps toward establishing building rules and regulations as already we have heard complaints concerning the quality of houses erected in different parts of the borough.

Another very important matter is the numbering of the houses in all areas of the borough. This should be attended to immediately as it is very difficult for visitors to the borough to find their destination. There should be more street signs posted in different parts of the Park.

There should be ordinances passed concerning the licensing of peddlers, circuses etc., and these should be strictly enforced.

I wish to call your attention again to the matter of sewage disposal. We have kept putting this matter off for two years, but we must do something immediately or we are liable to have action brought against us by the State Board.

Now that we have a new assessor and an assessor's map, I trust that assessments of property will be equal and fair and not as in the last year few years.

I think that our borough is to be commended upon the excellent school building and teachers which it now has but I consider the grounds surrounding the school building inadequate and I hope the Board of Education will find itself able to recommend the acquiring of property adjoining the school, so that the pupils may have a play ground without trespassing upon private property.

Thanking the members of Council and our citizens generally for their good wishes and kind co-operation in the past, and requesting a continuance of the same during the year of Nineteen Hundred and Twelve, I am,

Very respectfully yours,

**Signed ,
Lorenz Volkert (1912)**

Submitted by: Diane Reh, Chair, HPHA Board of Commissioners

PHOTO GALLERY

BAKED GOODIES AND BEAUTIFUL DECORATIONS!

THE SK CAFÉ GIRLS BUSY DECORATING CUPCAKES!



THE BUILDING'S ALL DECKED FOR THE HOLIDAYS!!



THE WINDOW FROM WHICH WE LOOK

A young couple moves into a new neighborhood. The next morning while they are eating breakfast, the young woman sees her neighbor hanging the wash outside. "That laundry is not very clean," she said. "She doesn't know how to wash correctly. Perhaps she needs better laundry soap."

Her husband looked on but remained silent.

Every time her neighbor would hang her wash to dry, the young woman would make the same comments.

About one month later, the woman was surprised to see a nice clean wash on the line and said to her husband: "look, she has learned how to wash correctly. I wonder who taught her this."

The husband said, "I got up early this morning and cleaned our windows."

AND SO IT IS WITH LIFE. WHAT WE SEE WHEN WATCHING OTHERS DEPENDS ON THE PURITY OF THE WINDOW THROUGH WHICH WE LOOK.
STOP....THINK BEFORE YOU JUDGE OTHERS!

Some important lease regulations from Part II of your Dwelling Lease

Section VI, Page 6. Paragraph (N):

"Shall not engage in any possession of drug-related paraphernalia or any drug related criminal activity on or off the premises. Any violation of this section shall be cause for termination

Section VI, Page 8 Paragraph (FF):

Smoking is prohibited in all units at the senior site as well as within 25 feet of doorways or windows.

Section XVIII, Page 16, Paragraph (G) Pet policy

The resident agrees to comply with the rules of the HPHA Pet Policy. Any violation of the rules of the Pet Policy may be grounds for removal of the pet or termination of the pet owner's tenancy (or both).



Festivus is both a parody and a secular holiday celebrated on December 23rd that serves as an alternative to participating in the pressures and commercialism of the Christmas season.

It has been described as “the perfect secular theme for an all-inclusive December gathering”.

Festivus was introduced in the Seinfeld episode “The Strike”, written by Daniel O’Keefe’s son Dan O’Keefe.

THE NIGHT BEFORE FESTIVUS

By David Emery

(A viral parody of “A Visit from St. Nicholas”)

‘Twas the night before Festivus and all through Queens,
Not a Costanza was yelling....as strange as it seems.
The family was sleeping, just waiting for light,
Saving their strength for the upcoming fight.

At the crack of dawn on December Twenty-Three,
Frank put up the pole...instead of a tree.
Estelle prepared the meal, that would start the rite,
Not a laugh or a smile was anywhere in sight.

George dreaded this hour that came every year,
The airing of grievances would soon be here.
Frank stood at the table and bellowed out loud,
‘So who’s got a complaint amongst the crowd?’

You two are crazy and have wrecked my life!
Cried George at his parents who mocked him for spite.
“A Lloyd Braun you’ll never be” was Estelle’s refrain,
“Why should I try Ma?....the guy’s insane!”

“Enough with the grievances” Frank said with some glee,
“Now which one of you two is wrestling me?”
“So feats of strength you want?”

Let them begin here.
“It’s your turn to fight him, mom...he beat me last year.”

The battle was started, the screaming was lyrical
The fact that no one got hurt was....ANOTHER FESTIVUS MIRACLE!!!

Happy Holidays!
DONNA BRIGHTMAN

