

HIGH BRIDGE

BOROUGH

Hunterdon County, New Jersey

Volume XC

Fall/Winter 2013

Mailing Date September 1, 2013

High Bridge Proud



High Bridge is Certified as a Wildlife Habitat Community!

In July the Borough of High Bridge completed all the requirements necessary to be named a "Wildlife Habitat Community!" Thank you to everyone who certified their Backyard Wildlife Habitats!

There are only 69 certified communities in the entire country and one other NJ town certified as a Wildlife Habitat Community. We are now one of the handful of communities nationwide who has received this recognition.

For more information, see the article on page 19.

Ellie Curtin Named Hunterdon County Mini-Historian

Ellie Curtin, a High Bridge Elementary School fourth grade historian took the time to research our town's historic places and write a winning essay on "Mine Road." We appreciate her efforts to preserve High Bridge history. Ellie was named the 2013 Hunterdon County Mini-Historian and was awarded first place as the High Bridge mini-historian as well.

Ellie Curtin is pictured right with the five Hunterdon County Freeholders and Stephanie Stevens, Chair of the County Cultural and Heritage Committee. For more information, see page 19.



The Commons on the Wye Park



The Commons Park, now home to many of the High Bridge events, originally was called the "Wye." The picture to the left shows a fairly recent picture of the Commons' gazebo shortly after a snowfall.

Read the history of the Commons on the Wye Park and find out which High Bridge groups have played an important role in transforming the area into the open and recreational space that it is today (story on page 6).

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Fall Brush Collection

Weeks of September 23, October 21 & November 18

Brush is not to be placed in the roadway. Please place brush at the edge of the lawn as per Storm Water Management Regulations. Brush must be ready for pickup the Sunday before the collection begins. Please have the cut ends of the brush facing the street. DO NOT place leaves or other yard debris on the brush as it will be left. Once we have passed your residence, we will not pickup anything until the next collection date.

Fall Leaf Collection

October 15 through December 6

DO NOT mix garden waste, brush, rocks or other trash with the leaves. LEAVES ARE NOT TO BE PLACED IN THE ROADWAY. Please place leaves at the edge of the lawn per Storm Water Management Regulations.

Residents and/or businesses on the following roads MUST place all leaves in bags: County Route 513, Cregar Road (from Hilltop Deli to the Cregar Road bridge), Hart Street, Union Avenue, Central Avenue, and all of Center Street.

Christmas Tree Pickup

Trees will be picked up from December 26 through January 30. Please have all ornaments, lights and stands removed from the tree.

Director of Public Works Michael Hann

Trash Collection

Trash is picked up on Tuesdays or Fridays and your area is scheduled for one of the two pick-up days. If you are unsure of your collection day, please call the Borough Hall at 638.6455.

Every bag of garbage must have a Borough of High Bridge Solid Waste sticker on it. Each sticker can be used for 34 gallons or 50 pounds of garbage. If you use garbage cans, place the sticker on the top item in the can so it is plainly visible when the lid is removed by the collector.

For cleanup items ("bulk" items), use one sticker for each 50 pounds of weight. Reminder: Only one large bulk item such as a sofa, chair, etc., per week. White goods (i.e., a stove), as well as televisions, computers, and construction waste will not be accepted.

For more information, refer to the "2013 High Bridge Solid Waste Stickers 2013" information sheet. If you do not have a "2013 High Bridge Solid Waste Stickers 2013" information sheet, contact the Borough Hall.

Place your trash out the night before as collection begins early in the morning. Bring trash receptacles back into your yard by the end of the collection day. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please note: The stickers for 2014 will be sent with the November utility bill. Please be sure to open the envelope and save your stickers.

Borough Hall, 71 Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829
Telephone: 908.638.6455; Fax: 908.638.9374
www.highbridge.org

High Bridge Emergency Squad
PO Box 14, High Bridge, NJ 08829

High Bridge Fire Department
PO Box 232, High Bridge, NJ 08829

Calendar: September and October 2013

September 2013	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat *
	1	2 Labor Day <i>Borough Hall Closed</i>	3 First Day of School for the High Bridge School District Students	4	5	6	7 9-1 Commons - Natural Recycling Area Open
	8	9 Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. <i>HB Elementary School</i>	10	11	12 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting <i>HB Fire House</i>	13 Recycling	14
	15	16 Senior Freeze Filing Deadline	17	18	19	20	21 9-1- Commons Natural Recycling Area Open; 1-5 Community Day <i>Union Forge Park</i>
	22	23	24 7:00 p.m. - Historic Preservation Lecture <i>HB Reformed Church</i>	25	26 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting <i>HB Fire House</i>	27 Recycling	28
	29	30	← Fall Brush Collection →				

October 2013	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat *
			1	2	3	4	5 9-1 Commons - Natural Recycling Area Open
	6	7	8	9	10 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting <i>HB Fire House</i>	11 Recycling	12 Historic Main St. Walking Tour 11:00 a.m. Paint-Out 2013
	13	14 Columbus Day <i>Borough Hall Closed</i> Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. <i>HB Elementary School</i>	15 Fall Leaf Collection Begins (through December 6)	16	17	18	19 9-1 Commons - Natural Recycling Area Open
	20	21	22 7:00 p.m. - Historic Preservation Lecture <i>HB Reformed Church</i>	23	24 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting <i>HB Fire House</i>	25 Recycling	26 1:00 Halloween Parade <i>Middle School</i>
	27	28	← Fall Brush Collection →				
29	30	31 5-8 Trick or Treat (houses with lights on only); 6:00 Pumpkin Display <i>Mini-Park, Main St.</i>					

* Farmers' Market: Every Saturday in September and October 8:30 to 12:30 at the Riverside Liquors' Parking Lot; contacts: Lisa Zambito (908-268-5340). Interested in mums and pumpkins? Keep an eye out for fall products!

Calendar: November and December 2013

November 2013	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat	
		Leaf Collection in progress till December 6.					1 4 th Quarter Property Taxes Due	2 9-1 Commons - Natural Recycling Area Open
	3	4	5	6	7	8 Recycling	9 11:00 a.m. Veterans Day Ceremony <i>Veterans Park</i>	
	10	11 Veterans Day <i>Borough Hall Closed</i> Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. <i>HB Elementary School</i>	12	13	14	15	16 9-1 Commons - Natural Recycling Area Open LAST DAY IN 2013	
	17	18	19	20	21 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting <i>HB Firehouse</i>	22 Recycling	23 8:30 to noon Rigid Plastic Recycling <i>Union Forge Park</i>	
		← Fall Brush Collection (last brush pickup till Spring) →						
	24	25 4 th Quarter Utilities Due	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day <i>Borough Hall Closed</i>	29 <i>Borough Hall Closed</i>	30 Santa's Mailbox Becomes Available	

December 2013	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
	1 Deadline for "Caught Being Green" Nominations	2	3	4	5	6 Leaf Collection Ends Recycling	7 * For a list of events, see below!
	8	9 Board of Education Meeting 7:00 p.m. <i>HB Elementary School</i>	10	11	12	13	14 Last Day Santa's Mailbox is Available
	15	16	17	18	19 7:30 p.m. Council Meeting <i>HB Firehouse</i>	20 Recycling	21
	22	23	24 <i>Borough Hall Closed</i>	25 Christmas Day <i>Borough Hall Closed</i>	26	27	28
	29	30	31 <i>Borough Hall Open till Noon</i>	Jan 1 <i>Borough Hall Closed</i>	Christmas tree collection is from December 26, 2013 through January 30, 2014.		

* December 7 Events:

1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Cookies with Santa at Borough Hall; Gingerbread Houses on Display outside the High Bridge Library.
6:00 p.m. Tree Lighting Ceremony, Main Street, High Bridge

Note: Council Meeting dates for 2014 will be posted on the web page: www.highbridge.org/government/council/

Recycling Brings Rewards

The State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) requires us to reach a 50% recycling rate. High Bridge's 2012 residential recycling percentage was 59% (up from 57% in 2011) for curbside recycling and brush collection. When you factor in the recycling information provided by vendors who collected from Borough recycling events and road projects, the rate increases to a 75% recycling rate.

The Environmental Committee asks all our residents to please continue to help us reduce the amount of recycling that goes into our garbage collection. Besides assisting us to meet the mandated recycling goals, your recycling can generate grant income to the Borough while helping our environment.

Did you know that we are eligible for State recycling grants based on the amount of our annual recycling tonnage reports? The DEP's recycling tonnage grant program is intended to provide municipalities with incentives to reduce trash disposal and increase recycling. It is funded through a State-imposed fee, which is added to waste transfer station tipping fees.

The grants are based on annual recycling tonnage reports submitted by municipalities and determined by the fees collected statewide. This revenue is used to offset Borough recycling expenses and was utilized in the annual budget to cover the cost of cleaning up The Commons, i.e. tub grinding and the associated labor costs. Your local government uses this grant money to continue to build even stronger recycling programs as we all work to improve our recycling efforts. High Bridge has recycling ordinances in place. Check them out on our town website. (See Documents & Forms/ General Borough Documents.)

Curbside Recycling

Curbside recycling is a service our town provides for its residents. Please take advantage of this service to boost our recycling percentage and to reduce the amount of solid waste we generate. To make recycling as convenient as possible, we have curbside collection every other week. The recycling dates are listed to the right; please take a few minutes to copy the dates on your monthly calendar as a reminder.

Newspaper, magazines, junk mail, cardboard and commingled items are collected.

Commingled items include unbroken glass of all colors, aluminum, tin, and plastics (#s 1 - 7 any size and any shape). These commodities do not have to be separated and can be mixed in open or closed containers of your choice. Please rinse out items and remove lids; labels may remain. *These commingled commodities may be put out in clear plastic bags, but the bags must be clear.*

Items not accepted: aluminum pie plates, ceramic cups, mirror and window glass, light bulbs, drinking glasses, plastic flower pots, Styrofoam®, plastic bags, oil jugs, and scrap metal.

Please cross-tie newspaper, magazines, junk mail and flattened cardboard into separate bundles 8 -12 inches high. The bundles should be placed next to or inside your recycling container for collection. **No pizza boxes.**

Place recycling out the night before your pick-up day. Collection begins early in the morning. If your recycling is put out late and you find the truck has gone by, do not leave the recycling at the curb. Please bring it back into your yard. It will not be picked up until the next scheduled collection day.

Sometimes our collector has a problem and cannot collect all materials from all the streets on the collection day. If they haven't been to your street at all, leave your materials curbside; they should be by the next day. Check the Borough website for updates.

Please call Borough Hall 638-6455 to report any recycling problems.

Recycling remains one of the best hands-on ways for individuals to protect their environment. Thank you for making an effort to recycle! You will make a difference!

Recycling Dates

September 13 and 27

October 11 and 25

November 8 and 22

December 6 and 20

January 3, 17 and 31

Note: Recycling Opportunities and Transfer Station Recycling information will no longer be published in the newsletter. Visit www.highbridge.org/Recycling and Trash.

*Environmentally,
The High Bridge Environmental Committee
Lynn Hughes, Council Liaison*

The History of The Commons on the Wye Park



The "Wye," as The Commons was originally called, is located on upper Main Street across the street from the starting point for the Columbia Trail. Parking is available at The Commons, which is within walking distance of the Borough's Main Street shops and restaurants. The Commons grounds covers approximately seven acres; the open park area is only part of the entire parcel. The western end of the Wye angles all the way back to the former well house at the end of Woodland Terrace.

Initially the Wye was owned by the Central Railroad of New Jersey, and it handled all rail traffic from the main line (now used by commuters) going northeast toward Dover. It contained a track for train turnaround referred to as a "wye." Triangular in shape, the wye enabled a train to literally make a "K" turn to reverse its direction. Beyond the park area, some of the old rail lines are still in place.

The history of the Wye would not be complete without mentioning the fact that the Freedom Train passed through the Wye in July of 1976.

When the Central Jersey Railroad was dissolved, the Wye became part of NJ Transit and was later purchased by the Borough. The old rail line that connected High Bridge to Dover was purchased by the Columbia Gas Company, and a transmission line was laid underground. The Columbia Gas Company sold the above-ground rights to the County for passive recreation on December 3, 1996, thus the name "Columbia Trail." The Borough then removed most of the old rails within the Wye and developed what is now the park area complete with a gazebo, outdoor stage for summer concerts and movies, and ample parking, creating an attractive trail head for the Columbia Trail that brings many visitors to town.

The picturesque gazebo was donated by the North Hunterdon Rotary Club in 1998. The Borough dedicated the gazebo to George A. Cregar, Rotarian and lifelong High Bridge resident, and a descendant of one of the area's founding families. The Cregar family farmed the area where the park is now. Their original homestead is the large white house with an expansive front lawn facing Church Street.

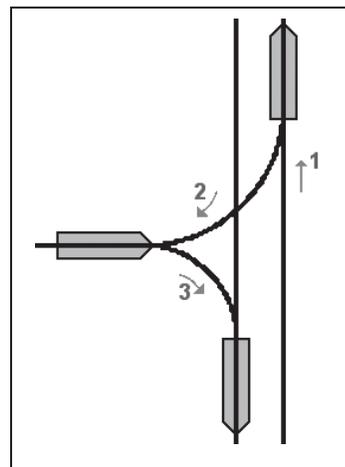


Illustration of a wye track

Over the years, trees were planted around the perimeter of the park area by the Borough Environmental Commission and the High Bridge Elementary School Environmental Club. A fence separating the park from the natural recycling area was erected in 2006 using Clean Communities Grant funds in an effort to curb illegal dumping.

A paver walkway around the gazebo was created by local Girl Scouts Rachel Fortier and Maggie Whitman for their Gold Award Project in 2006. Over the years, other Girl Scouts added bushes and plants to the gazebo area.



A rare photo from May 17, 1953. This was taken standing on the High Bridge Branch Line looking west across Main Street into the High Bridge Wye Yard.

In the open Commons area, there are several benches and picnic tables, which were donated by the "I'm for High Bridge" organization and one was donated as part of a scout project. From 2005-2009 The Garden Club of Somerset Hills awarded the Borough Environmental Committee several garden grants to enhance The Commons Park. The current perennial bushes and flowering plants were a result of these generous grants.

The High Bridge Borough Environmental Commission, the High Bridge Elementary School Environmental Club students, and local scout troops, with assistance provided by the Borough Department of Public Works have spent many years slowly working on the transformation of this area. These groups will continue to watch over and care for this area for all to enjoy.

To see a slideshow of this area, please visit highbridge.org, About High Bridge, Open Space and Outdoor Recreation section and select "The Commons Park." If anyone has history or old photos of this area, please contact lhughes@highbridge.org

Environmental Committee, Councilwoman Lynn Hughes

This area could use a few more picnic tables and park benches. If anyone is interested in donating a park bench or picnic table, please call Borough Hall 638-6455.

Concerts in The Commons Prove the Show Must Go On!



Despite the heat, humidity and rain, music lovers and community-minded folks enjoyed the Concerts in The Commons during the 2013 season.

fried Oreos. The weather was sweltering, with temperatures topping 96 degrees in the shade, but the crowd was still rocking and bopping!

Next up on July 17, High Bridge warmly welcomed back the Slewfoot Project, with special guests the Celtic trio of Baroque & Hungry. It was another steamy day with dark clouds looming on the horizon and thunder rumbling in the distance. The rains eventually came and cooled things off, but not before it ended Slewfoot's set, regrettably 30 minutes early. The crowd still had a great time and wanted more!

Lastly, for the first time on the High Bridge stage, local favorites the New Road Band, with bluegrass group Sully's Fortune in support, closed out the season on August 17.

The High Bridge Events Committee would like to gratefully acknowledge our Premier Sponsor Custom Alloy Corporation; Gold Sponsors: Roseland Savings Bank and Greenbaum Rowe Smith Davis; as well as the contributions of Colallilo Shop Rite; High Bridge Stone; Glassman High Voltage; and new this year, our Stage Banner sponsor Riverside Wine and Liquors. Generous financial partnership and support by these sponsors make the Borough's free concert series possible. The community of High Bridge is well served by the volunteers on the Borough Events Committee who organize these events. A special thank you goes out to Bill Miller and Brent Dugan for a spectacular job of strengthening the stage and shedding more light on our performers, to bring a more enjoyable and safer experience for spectators and performers alike. Please join us next year for another fun Summer Concert Season!

*Victoria Miller
Event Coordinator*

Newsletter News

In order to conserve taxpayer resources and make full use of the Borough's updated website, changes have been made to the publication schedule of the newsletter and its content. You may have noticed the August issue of the newsletter was delayed until September and covers September through December 2013. The next edition of the printed newsletter, which will be sent to residents in February, will again cover four months, February through May. Updates, however, will be posted on the Borough website as they occur. (Activities in January are limited, so there will be no coverage of January in the printed newsletter.)

In addition to adjusting the mailing schedule of the newsletter, the content was reviewed as well. Inclusion of the amount of articles from non-Borough organizations have grown in number and length over the years, and those included submissions have contributed to the rising cost of producing the newsletter. In order to continue to provide the Borough residents with pertinent Borough news while attempting to rein in newsletter production costs, new guidelines were put in place. Some articles will no longer be included in the newsletter, while other article submissions will be held to a specific word-count limit.

These guidelines have been developed in an attempt to conserve taxpayers' resources while continuing to meet the needs of those in our community who do not access the Internet on a regular basis.

If you have any questions or comments, please email Councilwoman Victoria Miller (vmiller@highbridge.org), liaison for the newsletter and Borough website. Thank you!

High Bridge Borough Council

REMINDER

Taxes & Utilities Due

BOROUGH OF HIGH BRIDGE
FOURTH QUARTER TAXES
DUE NOVEMBER 1, 2013

FOURTH QUARTER UTILITIES
DUE NOVEMBER 25, 2013

OFFICE HOURS

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

POST-DATED CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED.

PAYMENTS ARE ACCEPTED AT:

INVESTORS BANK
55 Old Highway 22
Clinton, NJ 08809

IF YOU ARE SENDING YOUR PAYMENT WITHOUT
A STUB OR AFTER THE DEADLINE, PLEASE MAIL
IT TO:

BOROUGH HALL, 71 MAIN STREET
HIGH BRIDGE, NJ 08829
Attn: Bonnie Fleming

PAY YOUR TAXES AND UTILITIES THROUGH AUTOMATIC WITHDRAWAL

No more late payments!

No more worrying about paying bills while on
vacation!

Go to www.highbridge.org to print the
application.

Mail completed application
no later than 30 days
prior to your next due date to:

BOROUGH HALL
71 Main Street
High Bridge, NJ 08829
Attn: Bonnie Fleming

SIGN UP TODAY!

www.rotololawfirm.com

THE
ROTOLO
LAW FIRM

908.534.7900

From the Tax Collector's Office

Do you pay your quarterly property tax bill online? If so, please allow 10-14 days for the payment to reach us.

We have been experiencing delays receiving payments made from online bill-payer services. In order to avoid late charges, kindly authorize payment 10 - 14 days prior to the due date.

For your convenience, payments may also be dropped off either at Borough Hall or Investors Bank in Clinton.

Homestead Benefit Program

Eligible homeowners received their homestead benefit for 2011 as a credit applied to their August 2013 property tax bills. **Homestead Benefit Hotline: 1-888-238-1233.**

Property Tax Reimbursement Program

The deadline for residents to file their 2012 Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) application has been extended to September 16, 2013.

The Division of Taxation has begun mailing the 2012 Senior Freeze (Property Tax Reimbursement) checks to eligible applicants who filed by the original deadline of June 3, 2013. Reimbursements for applications filed between the original deadline of June 3 and the extended filing deadline of September 16, 2013, will be issued as quickly as possible.

The State's fiscal year 2014 budget includes changes to the Senior Freeze Program. Only those applicants whose 2012 income did not exceed \$70,000 (the original income limit was \$82,880) are eligible to receive a reimbursement payment for 2012, provided they met all the other eligibility requirements. This means that residents whose income was over \$70,000 will not receive checks for 2012, even if they met all the eligibility requirements. **Property Tax Reimbursement Hotline: 1-800-882-6597.**

Bonnie Fleming, CFO

Historic Main Street Walking Tour

Saturday, October 12

11:00 a.m.

*45-minute tour begins in
front of the library*

*The tour will be cancelled if it is
raining.*



Join members of the Cultural & Heritage Committee for a tour of the historic sites located along our very own Main Street. Learn the history of the many places you pass by daily.

High Bridge Community Day

The High Bridge Events Committee and Police Department are organizing the Community Day activities to be held on Saturday, September 21, from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. at Union Forge Park. This annual event strives to bring together community-based groups, volunteer committees and the Borough departments to promote community pride and participation.

The day will include sports activities, live music, displays and demonstrations by our Emergency Services and Public Safety departments, anti-drug and anti-crime presentations, and free refreshments for all.

Please join us!

Councilwoman Karen Scarcia, Event Coordinator

Lead Poisoning Education

What is Lead Poisoning? Lead poisoning is a serious medical problem that occurs when too much lead accumulates in the body. When eaten or inhaled, lead is easily absorbed into the body and can cause developmental and neurological problems. Anyone can become lead poisoned, but children under the age of six and pregnant women are at greatest risk.

Today, the primary cause of lead poisoning in children is lead-based paint. Lead-based paint was banned from residential use in New Jersey in 1971 and nationally in 1978. However, housing built prior to 1978 may be contaminated. Houses built prior to 1950 present the greatest risk due to the high percentage of lead contained in older paint.

Reduce the risk of lead paint poisoning:

- » Make sure your child is not chewing on anything covered with lead paint.
- » Don't try to remove lead paint yourself.
- » If you live in an older home with plumbing made with lead materials, have your water tested. If the cold water hasn't been used for more than a few hours, let it run for 15-30 seconds before drinking it or cooking with it.
- » Eat right and don't store food in lead crystal glassware or old pottery.

For more information see the Environmental Commission page at highbridge.org. Visit www.lead safenj.org for more on sources of lead, home safety tips, consumer resources, and a list of certified lead abatement companies.

Environmental Committee

Electronics Recycling Event Summary

Thank you to the 164 residents who participated in our town-wide electronics recycling event sponsored by the High Bridge Environmental Committee using Clean Communities Grant Money. Recycling was provided by Supreme Computer & Electronics Recycling Inc. from Lakewood, NJ.

We filled one 53-foot tractor trailer in 4 hours: 11,235 pounds / 5.62 tons of recycling! What an environmental difference our residents made by keeping these recyclables out of the waste stream!

The Environmental Committee is pleased that we can continue to meet an obvious need of our residents by providing electronics recycling.

The next electronics recycling event is scheduled for April 26, 2014. (Details will be on the town website.)

Reminder: There is an E-Container in the Commons. See the related article on page 12 of this newsletter for opportunities to recycle most electronics throughout the year.

Environmental Committee

Storm Water Management

Look for storm drain markers in your neighborhood with the message: "No Dumping, Drains to River." These markers will serve as a reminder that our storm drains lead directly to the South Branch of the Raritan River and that we all play a part in the solution to water pollution!

What can you do to help? It's simple! Dump nothing on your property or down the storm drain that you wouldn't swim in or drink!

Here are a few changes we can make to ensure a clean water supply for years to come:

- Pick up after your pet and dispose of pet waste in the garbage.
- Use less fertilizer.
- Avoid pesticides.
- Compost garden trimmings.
- Take motor oil to the recycling center.
- Pick up litter in the street.

Grass Cuttings & Storm Water Regs

Be aware that State-mandated storm water management regulations state that grass cuttings cannot be left in the street or placed in any storm drain.

Environmental Committee

High Bridge Paint-Out 2013



En Plein Air Paint-Out Set for Saturday, October 12

After its highly successful inaugural appearance in 2012, the High Bridge Paint-Out is returning this fall with much anticipation.

Throughout the day, artists will be scattered around town capturing the historic charm and natural beauty that High Bridge has to offer in the medium of their choice. Later in the evening, the public is invited to see the artists' finished works on display in a juried competition at the Borough Commons Park.

Artwork will also be offered for sale in a silent auction. Live music and light refreshments will be available. Plein air artist Aida Birritteri will return as one of our judges this year and will be joined by artist Jamie Lindholm, owner of The Martinsville Studio (pictured right during the 2012 event).

If you're an artist and would like to participate, the registration form and prospectus can be downloaded from the Borough's website under the Document & Forms section. If you're a collector or just appreciate art, mark your calendar so you don't miss this fine event.

For more information contact Michele Schwartz, Event Coordinator. hbpaintout@yahoo.com or through the Events page on the High Bridge website.



Jamie Lindholm painting the Annex during the 2012 En Plein Air Paint-Out in High Bridge.

Michele Schwartz, Event Coordinator

Farmers' Market

2013 Farmers' Market

OUR 26th Year!

Buy Fresh, Buy Local

Saturday mornings through October

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Located in the Riverside parking lot on Main Street.

Fresh local produce and baked goods

Farmers' Market Assistance

The Environmental Committee is looking for people with an interest in promoting and growing our farmers' market. Interest in also establishing and promoting local food initiatives is desirable but not essential. You would work as a special interest group and report back to the Environmental Committee before any action would be taken.

If interested, please call Lisa Zambito at 908-268-5340 or email lisazambito@embarqmail.com.

Environmental Committee

interiorsrevealed.com

dee@interiorsrevealed.com

- ~Real Estate Staging
- ~Color Consultations
- ~Interior Redesign
- ~Seasonal Decorating

IR Interiors
REVEALED

908.528.2146

Dee Stephens

Halloween Happenings



One of our creatively-carved and decorated pumpkins from the past.

Annual Pumpkin Display

Thursday, October 31, 2013

6:00 p.m. at the

Mini-Park
Main Street ~ High Bridge

*Sponsored by the
High Bridge Events Committee*

Join us with your creatively-carved pumpkin lit by flash-light or battery-operated candle; no wax candles please.

Light refreshments and treats will be served to our ghoulish participants!

For more details, please call Maryann Hagan ~ 638-4508.



ANNUAL HALLOWEEN PARADE

Saturday, October 26, 2013

1:00 p.m.

Line up at the High Bridge Middle School, 50 Thomas Street

Calling all ghouls and goblins! Come celebrate Halloween with a parade that makes its way along Church Street, down Main Street, down MacDonald, along Washington Avenue, and ends at Union Forge Park. Judging will take place at Union Forge Park in categories such as Scariest, Funniest, and will be grouped for different age categories.

If raining, the parade will take place inside the Middle School Gymnasium.

Veterans Signage Visibility

Please help us keep our Veterans Park signage free!

If your Borough organization has an event sign to display, please place the sign to the side of the Veterans Park rather than directly in front of the park.

Thank you for being respectful of this special place.

Cultural & Heritage Committee



Commons E-Container

Electronics Recycling Container

We are pleased to offer residents of High Bridge a place to recycle electronic items, televisions, and computers on a regular basis. There is no need to wait for our recycling event if you need to get these recyclable items out of your home or office.

We have contracted with SAMR (the same company that does our one-day event) to have a shipping container placed in The Commons brush area. The container will be available to accept items 9 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the same weekends as the brush drop-off Saturdays; the dates are listed on this page to the right and are noted on the website at highbridge.org.

You will need to show proof of High Bridge residency or High Bridge place of work in order to take advantage of this recycling.

No Freon containing items (refrigerators, air conditioners, dehumidifiers) and no white goods (washing machines, dishwashers, stoves) will be accepted in this container. Save these items for our annual April electronics recycling event. Along with all electronics, Freon containing items and white goods will be collected at the one-day spring event. April 26, 2014 is the date of the next event.

SAMR ensures that all data on any hard drives or other media will be secured and/or destroyed. All materials will be properly recycled in accordance with all local, state, and federal laws.

Additionally, please note that recycled electronic items count towards our yearly tonnage report. See the related article on page 5 of this newsletter.

Councilwoman Lynn Hughes

Veterans Day Ceremony

Saturday, November 9 at 11 a.m.

Veterans Memorial Park

World War I officially ended on June 28, 1919, with the signing of the Treaty of Versailles. The actual fighting between the Allies and Germany, however, had ended seven months earlier with the armistice, which went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month in 1918. Armistice Day, as November 11 became known, officially became a holiday in the United States in 1926, and a legal, federal holiday 12 years later. On June 1, 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor all U.S. veterans.

Veterans Day is largely intended to thank living veterans for their service, to acknowledge that their contributions to the United States national security are appreciated, and to underscore the fact that all those who served - not only those who died - have sacrificed and done their duty.

Please bring a chair and join us for a time of remembrance.

Veterans Memorial Park is located at the intersection of West Main Street and County Road 513 next to the NJ Transit commuter parking lot.

Cultural & Heritage Committee

Commons Mulch Area

The Commons Natural Recycling Center will be open on the upcoming Saturdays in 2013:

September 7 and 21 October 5 and 19

November 2 and 16

Being able to bring your yard brush to The Commons is a service we provide to our residents.

Only brush and tree branches (three inches or less in diameter) may be brought by residents to the area behind The Commons Park on the above-noted Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. No stumps please.

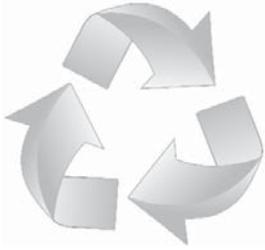
Please do not leave items in plastic bags. Additionally, pieces of lumber/wood, grass clippings and leaves should not be brought to The Commons.

It is against the law to dump any other items and subject to a fine up to \$1000 / 90 days jail / community service. Ordinance No. 2011-21; 2011-23.

We ask anyone observing illegal dumping at the Commons to report the day, time, type of material and the vehicle license plate number to the High Bridge Police: 638-6500.

Councilwoman Lynn Hughes

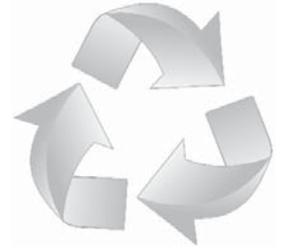
Rigid Plastic Recycling Event



Date: Saturday, November 23, 2013

Time: 8:30 a.m. - noon

Location: Union Forge Park



What are large rigid plastics?

They are harder and thicker plastics than the plastic bottles you have been recycling. Large, rigid plastics will be baled and sold to manufacturers who recycle them and make new products.

How do I recycle large rigid plastic items?

Large rigid plastic items are NOT acceptable for curbside collection. They are acceptable only at our town's recycling event. Carefully read the list of acceptable large, rigid plastic items before putting anything into the collection container.

Acceptable Items

(remove any wheels and metal)

- 5-gallon buckets without metal handles
- Empty & dry plastic paint cans
- Kitty litter buckets
- Large plastic toys
- Laundry baskets
- Plastic garbage & recycling containers
- Plastic outdoor furniture without PVC pipes
- Plastic pet carriers
- Plastic shelving
- Plastic storage containers
- Soda & milk crates

Unacceptable Items - Do not recycle with large rigid plastics:

General Categories

- Bags
- Battery-operated items
- Computers & electronics
- Electric appliances
- Electric toys
- Flower pots & flower trays
- Metal - remove from items
- Plastic bottles & metal cans
- Polystyrene (Styrofoam®) #6
- PVC #3

Specific Items

- 55-gallon drums
- Cardboard & other paper
- Chemical or motor oil containers
- Coolers
- Clothing
- Dirt, rocks, mud
- Drain pipes
- Fiberglass
- Garbage
- Glass
- Liquids
- Medical or hazardous waste
- Plastic sheets or film
- Rubber items
- Tires
- Tool boxes
- Vacuum hoses
- Vinyl siding
- Water hoses
- Wheels - remove from items
- Wood

Special Needs Preparedness Alert

"New Jersey Register Ready"

The New Jersey registration website allows residents with special needs and their families, friends and associates an opportunity to provide information to emergency response agencies, so emergency responders can better plan to serve them in a disaster or other emergency.

The information collected is confidential and will not be available to the public; it will be held securely and only used for emergency response and planning.

Please be as complete as possible in your responses. You will be contacted occasionally to ensure the information is correct so any necessary changes can be made.

Why should you register?

- To be notified by local officials when an evacuation has been ordered.
- IT MAY SAVE YOUR LIFE!

The first line of defense against the effects of a disaster is personal preparedness. During an emergency, the government and other agencies may not be able to meet your needs. It is important for all citizens to make their own emergency plans and prepare for their own care and safety in an emergency.

To register, visit <https://www13.state.nj.us/SpecialNeeds/>. If you require registry assistance, dial 211 (toll free) and an operator will assist you in registering.

NOTE: Adverse weather can be devastating to everyone's health, safety and well-being. Prepare now for alternative safe solutions to keeping cool or warm in the event of an extended power failure. Look after your elderly neighbors and report your concerns to the Borough. As always, for any emergency situations, call 911.

Do STOCK food that does not require refrigeration or cooking, plenty of bottled water and medications. Do not forget preparations for your pets.

High Bridge Emergency Management Committee



The High Bridge Business Association
invites you to the

7th Annual CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Saturday, December 7th
Main Street, High Bridge 08829 **6PM**

Christmas Carols
Hot Chocolate & Cookies
Santa on a Fire Truck
Good Cheer
Good Neighbors
Great Town



Holiday Happenings



Some of the gingerbread house displays from last year's event.



Sponsored by the High Bridge
Events Committee

join or just visit our Gingerbread House Display

Saturday, December 7
1:00 -3:00 p.m.
High Bridge Library Sidewalk

Culinary skills are not required.

Houses can be solo or a village made from gingerbread, graham crackers, cardboard or a store bought kit. If you aren't up to creating a gingerbread house, draw us one!

Stop by to view the candy-covered architecture.

There will be a raffle for all participants.

For more information, contact Maryann Hagan at 908.638.4508 or email maryannh@embarqmail.com.

Cookies with Santa December 7, 2013

The High Bridge Women's Group has arranged a visit from Santa once again this year. He'll be at Borough Hall on Saturday, December 7 from 1:00 p.m. until 3:00 p.m. This is a special time to come and visit with Santa in person! Cookies and punch will be served, and the children can listen to a story while waiting to see Santa. Bring your own camera for a great photo opportunity.



Santa's Mailbox

The Women's Group will also be helping Santa with some of his holiday chores. Santa's mailbox will be in front of Borough Hall from the Saturday after Thanksgiving until December 14. Any letter received that has a return address will receive a handwritten response from Santa before Christmas.



HB Emergency Squad

HAPPY 60th ANNIVERSARY HIGH BRIDGE EMERGENCY SQUAD!

As we celebrate our 60th anniversary, the Emergency Squad has so much to be grateful for. Our Emergency Squad could not provide the emergency services to High Bridge, without the people that we love, the residents of High Bridge, New Jersey. Thank you very much for your continued support throughout all of these wonderful years. It is because of your fantastic support of our events, such as our recent coin toss, that we are able to continue to function successfully.

We are very grateful for the continued support and camaraderie of the High Bridge Town Council, the Mayor of High Bridge, High Bridge Police Department, High Bridge Fire Department, and all of the local businesses. We could not do what we do without all of their support and assistance throughout the years.

We are very grateful to all of our members. Our members are all volunteers and have made the life choice to join our Emergency Squad because of a calling deep within them to go above and beyond for the people and community they love. We also are grateful for our members that may no longer ride an ambulance, but they attend each and every function for the Emergency Squad and assist in all the inner workings that keep the Squad functioning successfully.

Finally, we are grateful for our families. We could not get up in the middle of the night and run to an emergency without the support day after day from our families. We are grateful for the sacrifices our families make when we are out on a calls all day on a Saturday or miss a holiday dinner because of a call. We know our commitment to the Emergency Squad is actually the commitment of our entire family to the town of High Bridge and the wonderful people that live here.

Happy Anniversary Everyone,

Jenna Somogyi, HBES PR Chair

High Bridge Library

Hope you all had a wonderful summer! The High Bridge Library offered craft programs and storytelling this summer; hope you were able to participate.

Don't forget that Mary Ann Paterniti will be telling Halloween stories sometime in October. Call the Library for the date and registration (908.638.8231).

The Library would like to thank Aida Birritteri for her generosity in giving us her beautiful watercolor prints. All sales will benefit the Library (71 Main Street).

Thanks, Miss Terry

Friday Night Flicks

Our eleventh annual summer Free Friday Flicks were a big success with an average of 70 people per night coming together in this outdoor venue under the summer stars.

Due to copyright laws, we must pay to purchase the right to show each movie outdoors. Because we feel strongly about making our movie series a free event, we must depend on the generosity of local sponsors.

This year's movies were sponsored by the following High Bridge businesses: High Bridge Stone, Hilltop Deli, and Reflections. We especially thank three anonymous High Bridge families who also made donations. Thank you to all the 2013 sponsors!

The Events Committee would like to also thank the following volunteers for their selfless support of our movies series and for helping to make this an enjoyable community event.

- The High Bridge Recreation Committee for making such delicious popcorn.
- Girl Scout Troop 80894 for selling candy and water.
- And especially Jim Maher for volunteering to be our technical director for this series.

The movie series will return again next June.

*Anyone wishing to make a donation to support next year's Friday Night Flicks may mail a check payable to "High Bridge Events Committee" indicating a donation for the 2014 Movie Series, to CFO Bonnie Fleming, Borough of High Bridge, 71 Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829.

*Councilwoman Lynn Hughes
Event Coordinator*

"Caught Being Green"

The Environmental Committee is looking for environmentally responsible residents. Please submit the name and the environmental action of any High Bridge resident you observe going out of his or her way to be environmentally responsible. The Environmental Committee will vote for one person each year to receive our annual Green Award. Nominations should be sent to lhughes@highbridge.org by December 1.

Check out past Green Award recipients on the Environmental Commission page of our town website at www.highbridge.org under "Government."

*Lynn Hughes, Council Liaison
High Bridge Environmental Commission*

908.638.5006

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Improvement Contractor
#13H00445200
NJ Builders Registration #039107



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- WINDOWS
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e-mail: Tuck@BatchBuilding.com

Host Masonic Center

The Host Masonic Center, located at Ridge Road and Dennis Avenue in High Bridge invites you to join them.

BUFFET BREAKFAST

Sundays - 7:30 a.m. to 12 Noon
August 18 ~ September 15 ~ October 20
November 17 ~ December 15
January 19, 2014

Eggs, Bacon, Sausage, Pancakes,
Waffle Bar and Much More!
Adults \$8.00 Children (6-12) \$4.00
Children 5 and under FREE!

CHARITABLE SPORTING CLAYS EVENT

Saturday, October 26, 2013
Hosted by Host Lodge #6 F&AM at
Lehigh Valley Sporting Clays
To benefit The Host Lodge Charitable Donations Fund
Information and Registration,
contact Bill Miller 908-451-9755.

*Richard Allen,
Host Lodge No. 6, Free and Accepted Masons*

Weeding Thanks

Cub Scout Pack #149 has been weeding our tree nursery located in The Commons. We appreciate their dedication to weekly weeding to keep our little trees thriving until they are old enough to leave the nursery and be planted in the Borough.

Thank you to the High Bridge Elementary School Environmental Club for the spring weeding of the gardens in The Commons as well as for donating plants for this area. Your community service helps to beautify our park.

Environmental Committee

Clean Communities Grant

The Clean Communities Program was created in 1986 with funding from taxes levied on the sale of litter-generating products. The Clean Communities Fund was reauthorized in 2002 making all municipalities eligible to receive funding.

High Bridge annually receives grant money. Spending the grant money is restricted and can only be used for litter abatement/awareness items such as: litter and graffiti cleanup and removal, enforcement of local anti-littering laws, purchase of trash receptacles, sponsorship of adopt-a-park and educational programs. The High Bridge Environmental Committee used our 2012 Clean Communities Grant money of \$7,010.90. in the following ways:

- Sponsored an educational assembly for both the High Bridge Elementary and Middle schools
- Funded the electronics and rigid plastic recycling events
- Printed litter abatement flyers/newsletters
- Purchased graffiti cleaning supplies
- Made donations to High Bridge Scouts who weeded our tree nursery and for litter abatement activities.

Councilwoman Lynn Hughes

Reminder: Daylight Savings Ends 11/3



Whether you are a first-time buyer/seller or someone who has moved several times, I'd like to help!

I work with a team of professionals and will help you all through the process. With over 33 years experience in the area, I pride myself on giving my customers and clients my personal attention, whether it is giving feedback on showings of property, negotiating, or dealing with home inspection issues.

PLEASE CALL ME TO SEE IF WE CAN WORK TOGETHER

JOYCE LINDABERY

Sales Representative

WEICHERT REALTORS CLINTON OFFICE

Office 908-735-8140 x 150

Cell 908-391-0202 (preferred contact number)

#1 REAL ESTATE COMPANY IN THE COUNTY



High Bridge Is Certified as a Wildlife Habitat Community!

The High Bridge Environmental Committee has had the goal of making our town a certified Wildlife Habitat Community for several years now. To achieve this recognition, we needed to complete enough goal requirements in education, community, and administration as well as have a certain number of homes and Borough-owned property registered as wildlife habitat areas to qualify for certification. This past July we completed all the requirements necessary to be named a "Wildlife Habitat Community!" Thank you to everyone who certified their Backyard Wildlife Habitats!

A Community Wildlife Habitat is a community that provides habitat for wildlife throughout the community—in individual backyards, on school grounds, and in public areas. A Community Habitat Project creates a place where people, flora and fauna can all flourish. It is a place where the residents make it a priority to provide habitat for wildlife by providing the four basic elements that all wildlife need: food, water, cover and places to raise young.

Community Wildlife Habitats are organized by a team of people, who not only help create habitat, but also educate its residents about wildlife and sustainable gardening practices as well as organize community events such as stream or trail cleanups.

There are only 69 certified communities in the entire country and one other NJ town (Montclair) certified as a Wildlife Habitat Community. We are now one of the handful of communities nationwide that have received this special recognition. We will receive our Wildlife Habitat Community certificate at a Council Meeting in the fall. We invite all who certified their yards to come and celebrate this honor with us. Check the Borough website for the ceremony date.

If you have already certified your yard, we ask that you encourage your friends and neighbors to certify their yards. For more information go to nwf.org.

*The Environmental Committee
Lynn Hughes, Project Chair*

What does the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment do?

As Chairman of the High Bridge Planning Board/Board of Adjustment, I would like to clarify what we do.

High Bridge has a combined Planning Board and Board of Adjustment. The Planning Board consists of volunteer residents appointed by the Mayor and Council. By law the Planning Board consists of the Mayor, one Council person and seven other appointed residents of the Borough. The Board of Adjustment consists only of the seven residents. Both Boards have the authority to grant variances. The differentiation between the boards is by statute, depending on the type of variance that is required. We also have professionals who assist us by providing support in their areas of expertise.

Neither Board has the authority to make zoning ordinances. We can make recommendations for a new code or changes to existing ones. There is currently a subcommittee of the Planning Board examining the ordinances for the Downtown Business Zone. The committee will report back to the Planning Board with their recommendation later this year. The entire Board will then determine which, if any, of the recommendations will be forwarded to the Borough Council. It is up to the Council to agree or disagree with our recommendations and add to or change the current zoning ordinances. Only the Borough Council has the authority to make or change ordinances.

Before you begin any building project, be sure to check with the zoning officer at town hall to see if a building permit is required. Even small projects such as installing a fence may require a permit. The zoning officer will determine if you will need a permit. He will also decide if you need a variance or if your venture conforms to code. If he concludes that you will need a variance, contact the Planning/Board of Adjustment Board Secretary at Borough Hall for information on how to proceed.

Steve Dhein, Planning Board/Board of Adjustment Chair

High Bridge Mini-Historians

The Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission holds an annual historic research contest for all fourth graders. Students are asked to research one historic place in their town and write a report. These reports are submitted to the County and judged by retired teachers. The winners are announced at the May Freeholders' Meeting, which is held in the Historic County Courthouse.

Congratulations to the 2013 High Bridge Mini-Historians.
School District 1st Place and Hunterdon County Mini-Historian: Ellie Curtin
School District Honorable Mention: Liam Boyle and Niklas Oliver

Cultural & Heritage Committee

Educational Sustainability Partnership

High Bridge Environmental Committee and the High Bridge School Environmental Club
Partner for Education Sustainability

The Borough Environmental Committee sponsors annual sustainability-focused learning opportunities for the High Bridge Schools.

Earth Day assemblies are presented at both schools. These are paid for through our Clean Communities Grant. This year's assembly was called "It's all in a Drop." We organize a "day of caring" where the School Environmental Club and our Borough Environmental Committee work side by side to beautify our Commons Park. We weed, pick up litter, and plant flowers. This year's event was held on May 17.

The Environmental Committee and the School Environmental Club also participate in an annual Raritan River Monitoring Project run by the Raritan Headwaters organization. Students conduct water tests, classify macro-invertebrates, and record data. When they return to school, the students share what they learned about the quality of our local river with their classmates.

It is our hope that these authentic learning opportunities enable our students to apply what they learn in school to real-world 21st century issues that will help move us forward to a sustainable future.

The Environmental Committee

Hunting Awareness

The Environmental Commission would like to remind everyone that hunting season begins in September. While New Jersey has an extremely low incidence of hunting-related accidents, please keep in mind that High Bridge has open space properties in which hunting is a permitted activity. To check on the exact locations, please phone Borough Hall (908.638.6455).

Deer hunting season runs from September through February. During the season, bow hunting is permitted seven days a week. The Spring 2014 Wild Turkey hunting season will last approximately six weeks beginning in April.

The 2013-2014 hunting dates, rules and regulations are summarized in the *New Jersey Fish & Wildlife Digest (2013 Hunting Issue)* which will be available at local sporting shops including Sportsman's Rendezvous, 174 Highway 31, Flemington (908.788.5828). For a complete listing of all New Jersey hunting rules and regulations, please refer to the New Jersey Fish & Wildlife website: <http://njfishandwildlife.com>.

Environmental Committee

Deal with Icy Areas



An environmental consideration in winter is the use of ice-melting substances. Salt is corrosive and kills trees. Calcium chloride is easier on nearby vegetation than salt. One way to reduce the need for de-icing chemicals is to fix any ice-creating drainage problems before winter begins. For example, patch

the gutter that leaks onto the front steps or redirect downspouts away from walkways.

If you can't achieve necessary safety levels by shoveling early and often or by having someone do it for you, use de-icing products only as directed. *More isn't better!* Whatever you do, make sure you sweep it up once the surface is clear.

Environmental Committee

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News from High Bridge BOE & Schools

Board of Education News

High Bridge is proud of our 8th graders who recently graduated in June. Our students traditionally do well at Voorhees High School because of the strong foundation they receive at our Elementary and Middle schools.

The District successfully met and/or exceeded all components of the Quality Single Accountability Continuum and was recertified as a "High Performing District." We updated the Mathematics curriculum to reflect the new Common Core Content Standards as well as purchased new texts. A new reading program "Foundations" was implemented for kindergarten through second grade as well as creating a "Reading Literacy Center" at the Elementary School.

The District looks forward to increasing its participation in the School Choice Program to draw students into the High Bridge school system. We are focusing on increasing communication with the community through our website and the use of our virtual backpack. The schools continue to invest in technology to increase student and faculty access to classroom-based technology. We are proud to report our students in each grade level met the "Progress Target" as established by the New Jersey Department of Education and as evidenced through students' scores on the New Jersey Assessment of Skills and Knowledge.

We are happy to announce the District expanded the kindergarten program to full day. Three sections will operate for the 2013-2014 school year, which allows us to continue to provide small class sizes.

A new basketball scoreboard was installed in the Middle School gymnasium for use by both the school sports teams and the town's recreational teams.

The District would like to welcome Dr. Gregory Hobaugh as our new Superintendent/Middle School principal and Mrs. Michele McCann as our new Business Administrator/Board Secretary.

We would like to thank Ms. Mary Waldron, who retired after 41 years of service to the High Bridge School System and the community.

Middle School News

On June 13 the Middle School celebrated the accomplishments of students in the Class of 2013 during our annual graduation ceremony. Fifty-one proud students were recognized as graduates and are now preparing to enter their high school years. Our faculty and staff wish them every future success!

As September approaches, the Middle School is ready to welcome our students to the 2013-2014 school year. School will reopen for all students on Tuesday, September 3.

Prior to this opening day of school, an open house for all incoming sixth grade students and students new to the Middle School will be held on Tuesday, August 27 from 6:30 until 7:30 p.m. This event will provide the new Middle School students an opportunity to tour the building with their schedules in hand and locate/access their lockers. A question-and-answer session will close the program.

As the new Principal of the Middle School, I am excited to meet all students on their first day. I look forward to the start of a very successful school year.

*Gregory Hobaugh, Ed.D.
Superintendent/Middle School Principal*

Elementary School News

The High Bridge Elementary School (HBES) has had a busy summer cleaning and completing summer maintenance projects. We are happy for those staff members who retired and are ready to introduce new team members. HBES hosted the Extended School Year and the High Bridge Summer Recreation programs where there were many smiling faces. The staff worked hard to prepare for the opening of school which approached rapidly.

This year we will continue to build our positive relationships with the community. Once again, we are looking forward to visits from the community members to speak with our students about various topics.

September at HBES is an exciting time for new and returning students, especially as we begin our full-day kindergarten program. At HBES we will continue to focus on the strengths of our students as we prepare them, not only for the academic challenges, but for the challenges they will encounter throughout their lives.

Continue to use our website, www.hbschools.org as a resource for upcoming events, activities and general information.

*Brian Bizzoco
High Bridge Elementary School Principal*

Enjoy Our Open Space

The Environmental Committee invites you to take advantage of our varied open space areas.

- Walk or bike the Columbia Trail or Nassau Trail.
- Relax with a good book in the quiet area of The Commons.
- Take the kids to Union Forge Park for active recreation.
- View the Solitude Falls from the sitting area off the Columbia Trail.
- Follow the well-marked Taylor Steel Workers Historic Trail to the historic Forge.

It's a great time to get out of your house and enjoy your town's open space!

* Remember to do a tick check every time you return from enjoying the outdoors.

Environmental Committee

High Bridge Women's Group

Our small but dedicated group of civic-minded, High Bridge women has been incorporated since September 1980. Through the donations for registration in our annual town-wide garage sale, we are able to give awards to Middle School and High School students. This year's recipients were Ashley Gallagher and Nick Markarian at the High Bridge Middle School and Christina Giordano and Jason Farrell at Voorhees High School. Congratulations!

Please consider joining us for our annual covered dish social and first meeting of this club year on September 24 at 6:30 at Borough Hall.

For more information call Chris Marx at 638-4146.

2nd Garden Grant Received

The High Bridge Environmental Committee applied for and received a \$1,000 grant from the Garden Club of Somerset Hills to beautify the grass area in front of the police station. This is the second, back-to-back grant received. Work has already begun. Two flowering trees were donated by Tuck Batch, a rock garden wall was completed by General Pavingstones LLC of High Bridge, and planting inside the garden will be completed this fall by the Environmental Committee.

Environmental Committee

High Bridge is a Great Place to Live!

***Call me if you need a larger or smaller home, or
if your friends or family want to live here, too!***

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Email: eileenwallace@Weichert.com

Website: EileenWallaceHomes.com

Weichert Clinton Office

9 West Main Street, Clinton, New Jersey 08809



See You at the Holiday Tree Lighting!

Saturday, December 7

6:00 pm

Main Street, High Bridge



2013 High Bridge Pooch Parade - "Fairy Tails"

The 18th annual High Bridge Pooch Parade with its theme of "Fairy Tails," sponsored by the High Bridge Events Committee, drew 48 dogs entered with participants from Annandale, Califon, Chester, Clinton, Frenchtown, Glen Gardner, High Bridge, Lebanon Township, Phillipsburg, Pittstown, and Whitehouse Station. We thank all participants for coming out and making this year's parade a huge success.

This year's winners were:

1. Best Small Dog: Mimi, a Pomeranian, and Prego, a Pekinese mix, as "Princess & Prego the Pirate"
2. Best Medium Dog: Bennie, a Pomeranian, as "Sleeping Beauty"
3. Best Large Dog: Zeke, a Newfoundland, as "Tinkerbell"
4. Best Team Costume: Tugboat & Anchor, Newfoundlands, and Lilly & Shea, Golden Retrievers as "The Mad Hatters Tea Party"
5. Silliest Costume: Kirby, a Chocolate Lab, as "Cow That Jumped Over the Moon"
6. Most Creative Costume: Rusty, a Jack Russell mix, and Liesl, a Yorkie mix as "Hansel & Gretel"
7. Most Wicked of them All: Cody, a Keeshond/Spitz mix, as "Black Beard Pirate"
8. Fairest of the All: Murphy, a Goldendoodle, as "Princess Murpherella"
9. Best Fairy Tail - Child: Lemon, a Chihuahua, and Zuri, a Husky, as "Little Bo Peep and Sheep"
10. Best at the Beach - Adult: Josette, a Shih Tzu, as "Rapunzel"

We wish to thank the following sponsors for their generous donations: Shop Rite of Clinton; Custom Alloy; Country Pet Specialties of Lebanon; Pet Valu of Clinton; Glassman High Voltage; High Bridge Stone Company; Rita's Italian Ice of Clinton; Pets, Pets, Pets of Califon; Dr. William Reynolds of Flemington; Crown Veterinary Specialists; Drs. Foster and Smith; and Nutro Dog Food Company.

We would also like to thank the following vendors for participating in this year's event: Therapy Dogs International, Animeals, Pet Valu, and 4H of Hunterdon County Therapy Dogs.

A huge thank you to all the volunteers which included members of the High Bridge Events Committee, Lesley Steele and Samantha Wenrich, Lynn & Craig Hughes, High Bridge Brownie & Girl Scouts, the parade judges, Ralph Blakeslee of High Bridge for doing such a great job as our MC again this year, Carla & Curt Nowell of High Bridge for being our parade photographers, and Mia Fiorentino of High Bridge for once again providing this year's artwork for our tee-shirts.

Next year's theme is "Bone Appétit" so start planning now!

Check in soon at <http://highbridge.org/government/events-committee/annual-events/pooch-parade/> for pictures of this year's Pooch Parade.

*Ruby Reuter
Event Coordinator, High Bridge Pooch Parade*

What's Up in the Sky

Alas, this will be my last (mini) column for *The Bridge*, as it moves to an abbreviated print edition. While I am sad that it is ending, I am grateful to have been given the opportunity. I do hope you will come to visit the observatory of the New Jersey Astronomical Association (NJAA) up in Voorhees State Park. It's a wonderful resource, and it's right in your backyard. There is a group of enthusiastic volunteer amateur astronomers up there, awaiting curious folks of all ages. NJAA is open to the public, at no cost (although donations are happily accepted), every Saturday from 8:30-10:30 p.m. and every Sunday from 2-5 p.m. (from Memorial Day through to October 31). The Observatory also offers a Young Astronomers program (for ages 7-13) on the second Saturday of every month (May-October). Registration for the Youth program is required, and it opens on the website (www.njaa.org) on the fourth Saturday of every month. Mark your calendar; spots fill quickly.

It has been my pleasure to write these columns. My hope is that, in the past few years, the column has inspired you to look up a little more often and admire the skies above. It's an amazing universe up there, just waiting for you to discover it.

"No known roof is as beautiful as the skies above."

- Michael O'Muircheartaigh

*Theresa Moody, High Bridge Resident,
Member/Volunteer of NJAA, Employed at NJ Astronomy Center at Raritan Valley Community College*

Police Department

ATTENTION RESIDENTS

Borough Ordinance 184-18. Designation of snow emergency no-parking areas.

A. No vehicle shall be parked on either side of any street(s) or parts thereof from November 15 through April 1, with the exception of Church Street between Fairview Avenue and Taylor Street. Those parking in the Church Street area between Fairview Avenue and Taylor Street will be required to obtain a parking permit.

B. The above parking prohibitions shall remain in effect after the snow has ceased until the streets have been plowed sufficiently and to the extent that parking will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic.

Borough Ordinance 343-35. Snow and ice removal.

The owner or tenant of land abutting upon the sidewalk of any street or avenue shall remove all snow and ice from such sidewalk within 12 daylight hours after same shall have formed or fallen thereon. If the sidewalk is covered with snow after it has been cleared, by forces other than nature, it is the responsibility of the owner or tenant to ensure that snow is removed.

Borough Ordinance 343-36. Treatment of ice.

The owner or tenant of land abutting or bounding upon the sidewalks of any street or avenue shall, when such sidewalks may become icy or otherwise slippery, place thereon calcium chloride, sodium chloride, ashes, sand, cinders, sawdust or other material designed to prevent pedestrians from slipping and falling, and shall at all times keep such sidewalks in a safe and passable condition.

*Brett J. Bartman
Chief of Police*

Open Cupboard Food Pantry

Open Cupboard Food Pantry celebrates its 20th anniversary this November. From our beginnings at High Bridge Methodist Church, the community of High Bridge has been an integral part of the Pantry. You have supported us with donations of food, groceries and thrift shop items, you volunteer in the Pantry and shop, and you come to us for food when your need outpaces your income. We are grateful to have our roots in High Bridge and thank you for helping us grow.

Tobey Wodder, Pantry Secretary

I Remember When

I remember when Steve Gronsky and I used to go trapping along the South Branch of the Raritan River which ran in the back of our house and Gronsky's!

We trapped for muskrat, mink, skunk; sometimes we would trap a weasel. When we couldn't find a ride, we peddled our bikes way up to Cokesbury to see old Cole Alpaugh. He bought the animals we trapped from us; he skinned them, and sold the pelts to furriers. It was a long haul for a few bucks on our bikes. At the time, gasoline was only 19.9 cents a gallon. While at Cole Alpaugh's place, it was always our hope Cole would offer us a glass of his famous hard apple cider. Cole drove a hard bargain! Cole sold deer meat, pheasant tail feathers, preserves, honeysuckle, homemade grape wine, fresh corn, and sometimes homemade buttermilk thick, rich, and loaded with lumps of butter floating around! Country living back then and I loved every minute of it!

Steve Gronsky and I used to hunt for deer, pheasant, and rabbit! Hunting and trapping were as natural as fishing and baseball in our youth! We would hunt Voorhees State Park, Buffalo Hollow Road, Steinhauer's Farm, the back road onto Charlie Manning's farm and above, the Astell Farm, areas in Woodglen, the public hunting grounds before it became a reservoir, and all the way to Columbia, New Jersey along the Delaware Water Gap area! But as those early years passed away, I lost my desire for hunting and trapping because I could no longer kill wildlife! Now I stop for a turtle crossing the road and pick up the turtle to carry it across into the grass so it doesn't get squashed by a vehicle. I don't know if the turtle is grateful, but it makes me feel better!

Now I live in Mims in Southeast Florida near the Intracoastal Waterway, Atlantic Ocean, Port Canaveral, and Kennedy Space Center. It's a few miles from the Merritt Island Wildlife Refuge, where I can drive into coastal scrub as it was when first discovered. I can see birds especially scrub jays, sand cranes, and pelicans; I can see alligators, a cougar and panther now and then; bobcats; wild pigs or boar; large, old turtles; coyotes; an occasional fox and wolf; raccoons; and snakes if I hang around long enough in the thousands of acres of unfenced scrub land with marshes, lagoons, and swamps - I experience life the way it was when the wildlife were in charge!

Till next time!

*Arthur C. "Buddy" Adler
Former Longtime Resident & still active in the Community*

Dog License Information

Dog license renewals done after June 30, 2013 will have a late fee assessed of \$10.00 and \$5.00 per month thereafter.

DOG LICENSES ARE MANDATORY for all dogs six (6) months of age or more. At present, we are not mandating licenses for cats. In order to be licensed, a dog must have a current rabies vaccination that does not expire during the term of the license. Since our licensing year runs from January 1 through December, this means that the vaccination cannot expire during the year. To take advantage of the lower fee offered to spayed/neutered dogs, proof of the animal having been spayed or neutered must be presented. If such proof is not available, an Affidavit may be obtained from the Municipal Clerk's Office. If you have previously licensed your dog in High Bridge wherein the spay/neuter proof has already been supplied, it is not necessary to resubmit same with each renewal of your dog's license. However, proof must be presented if requested.

NOTICE: Dogs **MUST** be licensed in the name of an adult at least 18 years of age or more. Failure to license a dog will result in the issuance of a Court Summons which can be issued either against the legal owner of an unlicensed dog or one of the legal heads of household where the dog resides. In other words, even if a dog belongs to your son/daughter or other young adult residing in your household, you remain responsible as being the person "harboring" the animal.

Complete and mail the form below with your check to license your dog. Mail your check payable to "High Bridge Dog Fund" to the Borough Hall, 71 Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829. The fees for 2013, unchanged for 2014, are as follows: spayed/neutered dogs \$11.20; unaltered dogs, \$14.20.

Diane Seals, Clerk

2013 DOG LICENSE APPLICATION FORM
(enclose proof of current rabies vaccination & proof of spay/neuter)

OWNER'S NAME: _____
ADDRESS: _____
TELEPHONE: _____
DESCRIPTION OF DOG: _____
SEX: _____ BREED*: _____ AGE: _____
* If mixed breed, denote most descriptive type: i.e., Shepherd/Husky Mix
DOG'S NAME: _____ HAIR LENGTH: S M L
DOG'S SIZE (when adult): _____ Small = 0-20 lbs., Medium = 21-50 lbs.,
Large = 51-100 lbs., Giant = 100+ lbs.
COLOR & MARKINGS: _____
Address at which dog will be kept, if different from above:

**REMEMBER TO BE RESPONSIBLE DOG OWNERS - THE LAW REQUIRES THAT
YOU PICK UP AFTER YOUR DOG.**

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Historic Preservation of High Bridge

Work was recently completed on the restoration and replacement of the roof on the Solitude House Annex. The work was funded by a \$10,000 matching grant from the Hunterdon County Open Space Trust Fund Historic Preservation Grant Program. The Borough, working in conjunction with the Cultural & Heritage Committee (C&H), prepared the grant application and the material specifications for the request for proposal. The contract was awarded to Vector Exterior Construction, LLC on May 9 and work was completed recently.

The Annex, along with Solitude House and the surrounding property, was acquired by the Borough in 2002. The building, which originally served as a stable for Solitude House, needed a new roof due to deterioration from age and weather. The Annex was also used as a company store for Taylor Iron Works, and more recently as a rental residence.

A great deal of renovation and remodeling has been done to the building over the years. According to the Solitude House Preservation Plan, recently completed by noted historic architect Mark Alan Hewitt, the building does not retain enough "integrity" to be a candidate for a thorough restoration and "may be renovated for a number of uses that may bring income to the Borough." Even so, careful consideration was given to the roof material, to maintain the historic appearance of the building, while protecting it from further deterioration.

The past year has seen several preservation projects come to fruition in High Bridge. Preservation of the Annex is the most recent of these efforts. The Lake Solitude dam, classified as "high hazard" by the State due to the potential damage if it failed, was strengthened and the historic stone spillway preserved using a low interest loan from the State. That work was completed in 2012. Volunteer members of the C&H have recently carried out stabilization work on the farmhouse at Springside Farms. Also suffering from the ravages of time, the building has been made more weather tight in preparation for future restoration.

The Borough Council and C&H Committee are working diligently to preserve and protect the historic structures that make High Bridge a unique and beautiful place to live and visit. The Committee is currently pursuing a number of projects including the High Bridge Historic Preservation Lecture Series. Upcoming topics include: September 24, 7 p.m. - Michael Margulies, Understanding and Following the Standards & Guidelines for Historic Preservation; and October 22, 7 p.m. - Dennis Bertland and Janice Armstrong, House History Detectives: How to Conduct the Investigation. Funding for the lecture series has been made possible in part by the New Jersey Historical Commission, a division of the Department of State, through funds administered by the Hunterdon County Cultural and Heritage Commission.

The series is presented at the High Bridge Reformed Church, located at the corner of Fairview Avenue (Route 513) and Church Street. The Cultural & Heritage Committee welcomes anyone interested in attending meetings or joining the Committee. Meetings are held the 3rd Tuesday of each month in Borough Hall at 7:30 p.m.

*Amy Boyce,
Cultural & Heritage Committee*



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High Bridge Fire Department

Fire Prevention

The High Bridge Fire Department will be reviewing fire prevention at our schools on October 7. We will be discussing kitchen fires and safety in the kitchen. We urge parents to talk to their kids about EDITH (exit drills in the home). Once out of the house, never reenter until the Fire Department has determined it is safe to enter. Check that your heating system is properly maintained. Chimneys should be cleaned and checked for leaks. A metal can should be used for fireplace ashes and dumped far from any structure or flammable material. Remember - use a fire extinguisher on small fires only. If there is a large fire, get out and call the Fire Department by dialing 9-1-1.

Fire Safety

Keep leaves and yard debris away from any structure. Outdoor chimneys must have wire mesh or screen to catch embers. Chimneys that don't have these are considered illegal burns. Persons using approved chimneys should only use hard woods or Class A fuel. Note that pressure-treated lumber can produce harmful vapors and cedar produces a lot of creosote.

Annual Picnic

The High Bridge Fire Department would like to thank everyone who supported our annual picnic. The Annual Picnic is a great opportunity to spend time with your neighbors and make new friends. It was a huge success and plans are already in the works for next year. Please purchase tickets early next year to avoid disappointment.

Used Clothing Bin

We have a used clothing bin in the rear of our parking lot for your convenience. When cleaning your closets, you can donate your used clothes, sneakers, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, and pillow cases. All donations are tax deductible and greatly appreciated.

New Members Needed

Help us to help you! Anyone interested in joining the High Bridge Fire Department is welcome to stop by any Monday night to talk about how you can help High Bridge or visit our website at <http://www.highbridgefire.org/>.

Jim Dietz, Secretary

Community Emergency Response Team (CERT)



Our High Bridge CERT team is looking for new members. If you are a High Bridge resident, over the age of 18 and interested, call Gabi Oliver at 908-

638-8540 or contact us at hbcert@yahoo.com for more information.

Recent events CERT participated in were the Soapbox Derby, the Spruce Run Triathlon, the Warming Center at the High Bridge Rescue Squad and other helpful services to residents after Hurricane Sandy, the search of a missing person, and the High Bridge tree lighting.

To join the team, the applicant will have to complete an eight-week, once-a-week training program. This training will cover first aid, search and rescue, fire safety and control, disaster planning and anti-terrorism.

*Gabi Oliver
High Bridge CERT Coordinator*

Senior Corner

This will be the last issue of *The Bridge* that will contain a "Senior Corner" article. The information I have always included was primarily obtained from the *Seasoned Years* newsletter issued quarterly by the Hunterdon County Division of Senior, Disabilities & Veteran Services in Flemington. This newsletter always contained much more information than I was able to include in the High Bridge newsletter. Additionally, information on activities at the Senior Center in Flemington is also presented in the *Hunterdon Democrat*.

Seasoned Years is available free of charge for any Hunterdon County resident age 60 and over. If you are not yet receiving it, you can be put on the mailing distribution by calling 908-788-1361.

In the monthly meetings of municipal coordinators at the Senior Center, other information of interest may be provided. When that is the case, such information will be displayed on the bulletin board in front of Borough Hall. You may wish to check it whenever you are in the area.

I have had the pleasure of writing the "Senior Corner" articles for the last ten years. I hope some of the High Bridge seniors have derived benefit from its contents.

Fred Loozen

Please note: The "Senior Corner" was not eliminated from the newsletter by Council. Since other resources provide sufficient coverage of senior activities, Fred voluntarily made this issue the last for his column. Thank you, Fred, for your wonderful contributions to the newsletter for the past ten years!

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THE BRIDGE

NEXT ISSUE PRODUCTION SCHEDULE

Next Issue's Mailing Date: February 2014
Months Covered: February through May 2014
Deadlines ~ Ads and Articles January 7, 2014

Ads and articles received after the deadlines may be held for the next issue. All submissions are subject to editing.

The Bridge is published by the High Bridge Borough Council, 71 Main Street, High Bridge, NJ 08829, and is distributed to the residents of High Bridge.

For advertising rate and payment information, contact Jennifer Harrington, 638-6455, Ext. 24, or email jjacobus@highbridge.org.
For content and production information, contact Patricia Birchenough, 638-1166, or email TheBridge@HunterdonBiz.com.

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Dates to Remember

- September 21 - Community Day
- September 24 & October 22 - Historic Preservation Lectures
- October 12 - Historic Main Street Walking Tour
- October 12 - High Bridge Paint-Out
- October 26 - Halloween Parade
- October 31 - Trick or Treat & Carved Pumpkin Display
- November 9 - Veterans Day Celebration
- November 23 - Rigid Plastic Recycling
- December 7 - Cookies with Santa & Gingerbread House Display
- December 7 - Christmas Tree Lighting