

Atlantic Highlands BEACON



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Think about this for a minute...

By Muriel J. Smith

One of the very best things about Atlantic Highlands... and there are so many... is that even before the Christmas season starts, there's a wonderful feeling in the area. "Walk down to CloudKissedKids, Jamie at the Optician's shop said, "she'll help you!"

That simple sentence had two terrific messages... Walk... she said, don't drive, meaning there's plenty to see between here and there, plenty of nice people to meet, enjoy a nice stroll. And 'She'll help you!' Of course she will, that message said, she's another business owner!

Take a close look around all the shops along First Avenue. They're owned, managed, or employ Greeks, Indians, Thai, Chinese, Italians, Egyptians, Irish and so many more. And yes, even Americans whose roots were planted here shortly after the Mayflower.

And at Christmas, all of these wonderful people from so many different countries bring some of their own culture with them, or adopt ours to add to their own, to celebrate a day when family, friends, strangers, the old and young, the Buddhist and Christian, can take the time to appreciate and learn from each other's culture.

Terje Jaamann, who owns CloudKissedKids, came to the United States from her native Estonia, and celebrates Christmas over the month as a Christian holiday. The family goes into the woods to get their tree to decorate; for the 25 days before Christmas, honoring Advent, young family members put a slipper on the windowsill each night, to be filled by the 'elves' with tiny gifts each night. Christmas Eve, the family gets together

for traditional Estonian dinners... blood sausages, sauerkraut, oven-baked potatoes. The tree is already up, decorated with plenty of wooden, straw and handmade ornaments, and Christmas morning, there is church and gift opening with family and friends.

Medrat Shehata is Egyptian and owns First Avenue Pizza. He celebrates New Year's rather than Christmas Eve; but for him, that is a special time for dancing, fun, visiting restaurants, and sharing kisses at the stroke of midnight. Christmas, he said, is a time for family, for big dinners, for gifts... and "as long as people are happy, I am happy."

Chris Kousouris owns the wonderfully Greek flavored Town & Surf Diner and agrees Christmas is a family time. There are always at least five different kinds of holiday cookies to be baked, including kourabiethes, Finikia, Galaktobourikos, and of course, baklava. There is the traditional lamb to be baked, with the family vying over who gets the special parts... the eyes, the tongue, the brains; there is Stfatho, the winter stew with beef, tiny onions, and winter vegetables. Gift giving waits until January 6, the Epiphany, when the three Kings visited the Baby Jesus and in many towns near the water, where the Archbishop throws a cross in the sea for eager divers to retrieve.

Niki Li, who works at the new Beijing Chinese Restaurant, didn't celebrate Christmas in China as a youngster, but quickly adopted American customs when she moved here. Today, Christmas is a family feast, complete with a fire pot, a steaming pot of meats or seafood and vegetables. A special time for family.

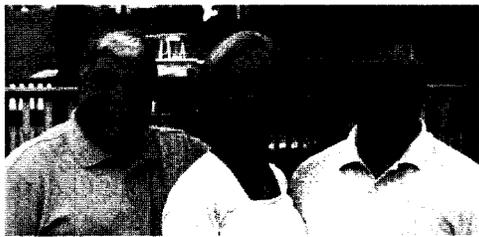
Manish Chandwani owns Royal Atlantic Wine & Spirits and it's easy to see why he's the cheery, friendly, smiling person he always is! His parents are Hindu, his children

Catholic, so three generations celebrate everything! Even better, Duwali, the Hindu Festival of Lights, a feast so important it's an official holiday in many countries, including Christmas Island off Australia, begins in October or November and continues through days and weeks of lighting kiyas, lamps and candles, puja, family prayer, and plenty of music, decorations and family time together. The celebrations roll right into post-Thanksgiving, when the Chandwani's pick up their tree and their two sons, both in Catholic school, begin making special decorations for the tree set up in the family living room. After that, there's Christmas itself which the Chandwanis celebrate like all Americans... family, fun, music, prayer, and laughter.

For Won Boagvasin, a waitress at Kunya Siam, January 1 is the celebratory day in her native Taiwan, with time for prayer in the temple, vacation travel for many into the mountains to the north, and visits to Buddhist temples wherever the family is. Here in America, Won is happy to continue to visit the temples, and add to the fun and joy of the season with music, family, "and being happy with those you love."

Janice Godfrey, who owns Artz by the Sea in the Emporium, welcomes all the traditions of other countries and cultures, but thrives on her own traditions built over the centuries her family roots have been in America. For Janice, the 12 Days before Christmas are celebrated with gifts for each of the grandchildren to honor that special time, a surprise gift at Christmas, and a traditional Christmas dinner where three generations enjoy either turkey, lamb or goose with all the trimmings, and the piece de resistance... pies from Janice's grandmother's recipes for pumpkin and lemon meringue pies and her own specialty, coconut custard pie. "It wouldn't be Christmas without the pies."

Winners of 2015 Boro Election



Councilman Roy Dellosso, Mayor-elect Randi LeGrice, Councilman-elect Chuck Lero

Randi LeGrice

Passionate Community Volunteer

- Vice President and a Founding Member of the Friends of the Atlantic Highlands Library
- Member of the Atlantic Highlands Arts Council since its inception
- 26-year borough resident, committed to being your full-time mayor

Roy Dellosso

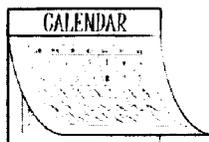
Experienced Public Servant

- Borough Councilman for 9 years and current Council President
- Former 12-year member of the Atlantic Highlands Board of Education
- 26-year borough resident and local business owner

Chuck Lero

Local Business Leader

- President of the Atlantic Highlands Chamber of Commerce
- Senior Mortgage Consultant at Two River Community Bank
- 20-year borough resident and expert on the local business community



The Borough of Atlantic Highlands is happy to announce the publishing and mailing of our new Community Calendar. The calendar is designed to help you organize the important information you need as residents and business owners in the Borough. It will be mailed to everyone in Atlantic Highlands in the coming weeks.

Our community calendar will include important dates like bulk pick-up and leaf /

brush collections, Council meeting dates, public events, and community programs. It will also list contact information so you will know whom to call at Borough Hall. The Community calendar will replace all of the other notices that were formerly mailed to your homes, so don't throw it away, keep it in a convenient place where you can refer to it often. You can use this resource to plan activities, as well as keep up to date on Borough business.

Since this is our first calendar, there may be some events, from different organizations, that are not listed for next year so use it in conjunction with the Borough website, www.ahnj.com, which is another great resource to get many of your questions answered.



Register Me!

Dog owners residing within the Borough of Atlantic Highlands are required by State Law and Borough Ordinance to license all dogs annually that reside within the household for more than 30 days and are older than 7 months. Dogs must be licensed by January 31 or owners could be subject to court fines and surcharges. For more information call the Clerk at 732-291-1444 x 3103.

Report a Concern

A new feature has been added to our website, www.ahnj.com, which makes it easier for you to report a concern or request a service.

Once you go to our website, on the left hand side you will see a button that looks similar to this.  By clicking that button it will take you into the form which is fairly easy to complete. It will ask you to first find your property address and offer you two options to do this. The first option allows you to begin typing in your address. You can then choose from the list returned to you, or option 2 lets you look up a street, then a house number from drop down boxes. At that point the form will open and you can fill it out completely.

Please take a moment to read the form as you are filling it out because it will provide instructions for you, as you go along. Make sure you include an email address as well, so you can receive notifications as the process moves along to resolution.

To the Pointe...

At this time of the year at Portland Pointe I am often reminded of the song "Tradition" sung by Tevye and family from the play "Fiddler on the Roof." We at Portland Pointe enjoy meaningful traditions and events that have continued for many years.

In the month of November we look forward to our Thanksgiving Pot Luck Luncheon, which has taken place over the past 13 years. The staff cooks the turkey and gravy and our residents bring all of the sides and desserts. Every year we count on our residents to bring us their delicious cooked recipes of sweet potatoes, stuffing, lima beans and corn, creamed onions, stuffed mushrooms, corn pudding, pumpkin pie, apple pie, and many other Thanksgiving favorites. We have come to say that this is the best Thanksgiving dinner one will ever enjoy!!

The first Friday of December marks the Resident Tree Trimming Gathering where our residents decorate our community room holiday tree. Residents bring snacks and beverages to share, turn on the holiday music and then sit back to enjoy the lovely decorated holiday tree. After the community room tree is decorated we all watch as the other decorations start to appear and our lobby area and community room become magical and begin to twinkle with lights and greens and a sense of joy and wonder. Many of our holiday decorations have been given to us by former and current residents and the memories return as the decorations are unpacked.

As the month moves along we look forward to the arrival of the Highlands Community Singers and their holiday musical performance at Portland Pointe. We enjoy singing along with the Singers and then we all delight in some festive refreshments and a chance to visit with friends.

Our December holiday luncheon culminates our festivities. We share a catered luncheon in our community room with a resident gift exchange, gifts from the staff to our residents, some raffles, a group reading of "Twas the Night Before Christmas" and our "traditional"

holiday dessert of cheesecake and cookies.

It is the "anticipation" of these holiday traditions and then the "fulfillment" of them that bring meaning and a sense of community to all who live and work here. We celebrate our traditions and are grateful for this unique senior community in Atlantic Highlands known as Portland Pointe. On behalf of Portland Pointe we wish you a joyous holiday season!

Judy Turner, Executive Director
Portland Pointe

When we use the phrase Atlantic Highlands award-winning restaurants, we are not exaggerating! Here again are 3 of our own taking top honors in the Asbury Park Press



Reader's Choice award in Monmouth County

BEST !

Restaurants without Liquor License
Christines Italian Restaurant

One of the BEST!

BBQ.....Memphis Pig Out Restaurant
Casual Dining....Harborside Grill

A New Website at a New Home



Two River Community Bank is pleased and excited to announce the upcoming launch of our new website later this year. Designed with a fresh, clean look and more intuitive navigation, we think you'll find it easier than ever to handle all your banking needs. Plus, the new website is optimized for mobile devices, so it automatically adapts to the size of your screen, assuring mobile-friendly readability.

Hudson Tri-District Education

Foundation Ends Year On High Note

The Front Porch Club Chilifest capped off an extremely successful first year of fundraising for the Henry Hudson Tri-district Education Foundation (HHTEF). More than 800 guests enjoyed food, drink and music at the Sandy Hook Bay Catamaran Club. In all, the event raised \$20,000 bringing the Foundation's fund raising total to \$47,000 for 2015.

The Foundation's first large-scale fundraiser in July was a Cruise & Cocktail Party at the Montecalvo family's stunning Highlands home overlooking the Shrewsbury River. More than 200 guests enjoyed the beautiful summer evening, along with food and drink from generous sponsors. Some, including co-hosts New Jersey Senator Joe Kyrillos (R-NJ 13th District), his wife Susan, and Congressman Frank Pallone (D-NJ 6th District), boarded the Montecalvo yacht for a sunset cruise. This sold-out event raised \$20,000.

"We are so grateful to our supporters and sponsors who have helped us exceed our initial fund raising goal of \$20,000," said HHTEF President Sarah Chiles. "We now have \$47,000 to support our students, and I am happy to report that we have already begun funding STEAM projects at the 3 schools of Atlantic Highlands and Highlands."

The mission of the Education Foundation is to support innovations in Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math programs, as well as athletics at Atlantic Highlands Elementary School, Highlands Elementary School, and Henry Hudson Regional School. To date the foundation has provided funds to programs including:

- Students2Science which provides virtual science lab experiences to all 4th-7th graders in the Tri-district and 3 days of field trips for 8th graders to a state-of-the-art chemistry lab in East Hanover, NJ.
- Teacher Projects including a Pre-K engineering center, Genius Hour, tennis ball machine, and a Broadway field trip.
- Other projects under consideration include supporting national academic competitions, a Mobile STEM Museum, and enhancements to the theater, band, and athletic programs.

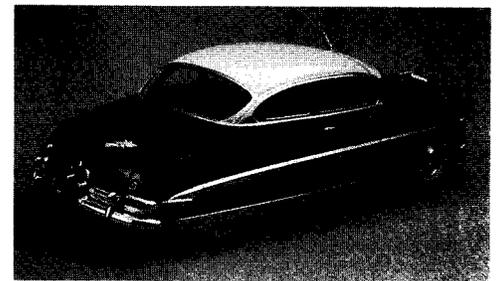
For more information on the Henry Hudson Tri-district Education Foundation, please visit <https://hhfef.wordpress.com> or email hhtedfdn@gmail.com.

Updates from your Tri-District Schools

Since school began in September, there has been so much happening at Atlantic Highlands Elementary and Henry Hudson Regional Schools! To find out about all the sports achievements & updates, strategic planning, student honors and more, please visit our tri-district website: <http://www.hhrs.us/tridistrict/>

First Fall Fest and Car Show a Big Success

The First Annual Atlantic Highlands Chamber of Commerce Fall Fest Car Show took place on Saturday, October 10, 2015. It turned out to be a beautiful crisp fall day. The festival was fun for the whole family, not only the classic car buff. The event along First Avenue and in Veteran's Park, was well attended with classic and vintage automobiles and trucks up and down the street. In addition to the amazing cars, there was live music, face painting, pumpkin picking, pumpkin painting and trick or treating. The "Pin up Dolls" and a few zombies showed up to make the day even more fun. All the shops, galleries and restaurants were open to show everyone why Atlantic Highlands is a great "Destination". Meredith Peltz, Chair of the event, thanks the participants and the volunteers and especially the major event sponsor Old Bridge Township Raceway Parks!



AHES Takes Play to New Level

"Children learn as they play. Most importantly, in play children learn how to learn." – O. Fred Donaldson, founder of "Original Play"

At Atlantic Highlands Elementary School (AHES) play is serious business. "Play is an extremely important component to learning and we routinely utilize play in a variety of ways to foster creativity, provide social opportunities, and encourage exercise," said principal, Mrs. Janet Walling. "As some of

Continued on page 4...

Coming Soon!

Shown here are 2 of the projects currently underway on First Avenue. Details are available at town hall.

35 First Avenue... Sandwiched between the Gaslight Pub and the Blue Bay Inn, on the site of what was formerly the Skipper Shop...



1st Avenue

60-68 First Avenue The Mini Mall (formerly Heifietz 5 & 10 store) plus the vacant lot next to it. Across the street from Memphis Pig Out Restaurant...



Calling All Artists!

Did you know that the library is another venue to display your art work? If you are interested, please contact the library and express your creative side.

Page 3 continued...

our playground equipment needed to be replaced and upgraded, we were extremely happy to have been able to not only add new equipment to our current playground, but equipment that would be exciting to children who may have outgrown the existing, older equipment." Over the past few years, AHES has enhanced outdoor time for students by adding field equipment to encourage free play & games — such as soccer goals & nets — and installing a learning garden and outdoor classroom area.

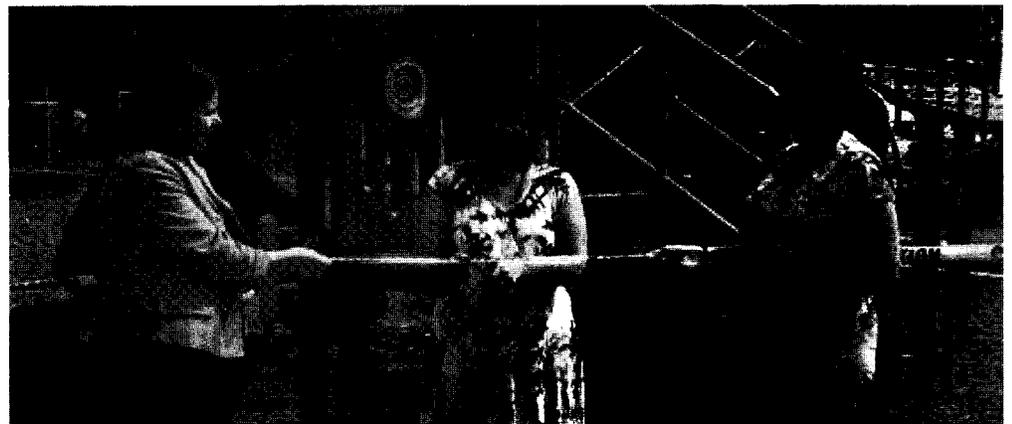


PHOTO: Ribbon cutting for the new playground at the Atlantic Highlands Elementary School.

Welcome....

JBL Trinity Group LTD

For close to 25 years, Joe DiMattina has lived in Atlantic Highlands. He loved it so much he recently moved his business, JBL Trinity Group to 50 First Avenue next door to AJ Dillon Gallery of Fine Art.

JBL is at the industry forefront providing a full menu of insurance and surety products to an array of high risk industries including Construction, Marine Contracting, Roller Rink and Indoor Entertainment Centers, and Restaurants. As a full service broker, they offer all lines of insurance including Property & Casualty, Life and Health, and personal lines. JBL can custom fit a total risk management solution suited to client specifications. Among their offerings are employee benefit products, alternative risk financing options, and expert claims handling.

Their motto: "Whatever the business, whatever the risk, commercial or personal, insurance, bonds or claims.... we will get it done."

Welcome to town, Joe and company!

Making the world a sweeter place...

Hello and welcome Matt and Laura, new owners of FlakyTart

Self-trained Chefs Matthew Rosenzweig and Laura Martelli met at the bakery in 2009, with a shared background in art and a passion for baking. Drawing inspiration from fresh, local and seasonal ingredients, the two fashion sweet and savory delights with a worldly flair. Crafting pastries with a sense of nostalgia, updated with a unique twist, Chefs Laura and Matthew hope to entice your palate and put a smile on your face!

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS SENIORS

The Atlantic Highlands Senior Citizens Club is looking for new members to join them for meetings and activities. Meetings take place the second Monday of each month and social gatherings take place on Wednesdays and Fridays at the Senior Building. For more information or to sign up please call Barbara Crocker at 732-996-6462.



Welcome Frank Delaney!

Welcome Frank, owner and head coach at Power Pack CrossFit a strength and conditioning facility that develops individuals and athletes to reach elite fitness levels through constantly varied movements executed at high intensity. Power Pack CrossFit is located on 26 West Highland Avenue in a 3,000 sq/ft facility, plenty of room to experience CrossFit the right way. Our training methods produce tangible results for all levels of fitness. There isn't a strength and conditioning program anywhere that works with a greater diversity of tools, modalities, and drills.

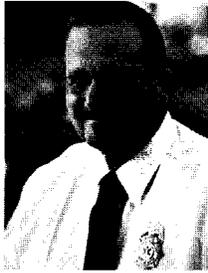
Frank invites you to come see for yourself.



**POWER PACK
CROSSFIT**

BORO SERVICES ROCK!

Congratulations Jerry!



It takes guts to call 911.

Jerry Pandolfo, chief of Atlantic Highlands First Aid & Safety, often reminds people it's not easy for someone who is sick and injured to call for help. That's why he's still on call after 25 years.

"It's very gratifying," said Pandolfo, 54. "You're helping people in their time of need. These people are typically your neighbors, people who live in your town. You're just trying to make the worst possible time in their life better."

Pandolfo's commitment to serving our community was recognized by his employer, PSE&G. He received the company's Recognizing Excellence in Volunteerism Award, earning a \$10,000 grant for our EMS squad.

"Jerry makes upwards of 200 EMS calls a year," said Richard Huff, another volunteer. "Each one takes more than an hour, at least. So factor in training, meetings, etc., and one can give up hundreds of hours of time — while also working regular jobs — every year."

Shade Tree Commission

Honors Street Department

The borough Shade Tree Commission planted a tree honoring Street Department employees, the "people who traditionally plant trees on borough land."

Commission Co-Chairman Louise I. Donoghue presided over the planting of an Allee elm at a ceremony on Hennessey Boulevard at the foot of West Mount Avenue. A plaque citing the Street Department was also placed at the site.

In addition to Mrs. Donoghue, Co-Chairman Marilyn Scherfen, Commission Member Kate Wiggington and Business Administrator Adam Hubeny spoke during the ceremony, praising the employees for their wide-ranging work on behalf of residents.

A reception was held following the ceremony at the Senior Citizens Center in the municipal harbor.

The tree planting was part of the Shade Tree Commission's ongoing "tribute tree" program to honor borough residents who have served the community over the years.

For more information about the Shade Tree Commission, go to the Boro web site ahnj.com and click on Shade Tree Commission.



Members of the AH Street Department crew (from left) Dave Grametbauer, Mike Mohr, Roger Kroeck (supervisor), Louise Donoghue (Commission) and Mark Ackerson. Photo by former Mayor Peter E. Donoghue

Leadership Excellence Opportunity

Leo Clubs are a youth organization of Lions Clubs International whose objective is to provide the youth of the world with an opportunity for development and contribution as responsible members of the local, national and international community.

Leo clubs encourage youths to develop leadership qualities by participating in social service activities. If you have attended any event in our town this year, chances are the LEOs were there quietly and efficiently performing their assigned duties...making the event a success.

Next time look around. Identify the LEOs. And thank them for their service!

Here's where they were this year.....

January - Diaper Drive - to benefit local moms in need

March - Easter Egg Hunt Helpers

April - Food Drive for Food Pantry

May - AH Lions Club Pancake Breakfast Helpers

June - Relay for Life - overnight Cancer walk

July - Fireman's Fair Food Court workers

September - AH Lions Club Pancake Breakfast Helpers

October - Haunted Mansion Helpers, Harvest Festival Volunteers, Crop Walk

November - Canned Food Drive to help fill the pantry for Thanksgiving

December - Holiday Shop helpers, Holiday Tree Lighting volunteers,

Also, the LEO group raised money to provide a generator for Ian Silakowski, a former LEO who suffers from transverse myelitis, and to assist a local displaced family with an enormous electric bill.

2015 Members

Stacey Faria - Past Treasurer

Sarah Torres - Past Secretary

Wendy Faria - Past President

Kendall Keelen - Past Vice President

Present

Robert Hillmann - President

Camille Nastasi - Vice President

Maggie Hjelm - Secretary

Paige Huff - Treasurer

Josh Kurta

Louise Nastasi

Kamryn Hubeny

Emma Curry

Hannah Hubbard Smith

Genevieve Keelen

Jaime Plumaker

Z Sharkey

To show just how much they appreciate the LEOs, one of the popular restaurants in town is sponsoring their Christmas Party.

The Atlantic Highlands Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary

Wants You!

The mission of the Atlantic Highlands Fire Department Ladies Auxiliary is to support and be of assistance to the Atlantic Highlands Fire Department whenever needed. The members of the Ladies Auxiliary pursue their mission through activities supporting the fiscal, public service and response support needs of the Fire Department.

The Auxiliary is looking for new members! You do not need to be related to a fireman or

Continued on page 6...

BORO SERVICES ROCK!

Page 5 continued...

woman. You just need a desire to volunteer! You can call Mary Thompson at 732-872-1317 for further information.

An Important Message from the Atlantic Highlands Police

Rules of the Road

The Atlantic Highlands Police Department would like to address the roles of motorists, cyclists, and pedestrians when it comes to traffic safety. What some people might not know is that everyone plays a part in making our roadways safe and we all need to work together to accomplish the goal of "No Fatalities."

Motorists: New Jersey Statute 39:4-36 states the driver of a vehicle **MUST** stop and stay stopped for a pedestrian crossing the roadway within any marked crosswalk, and **SHALL** yield the right-of-way to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection, except at crosswalks when the movement of traffic is being regulated by police officers or traffic control signals, or where otherwise prohibited by municipal, county or State regulation. Remember there is a crosswalk at every intersection even if is not marked.

It also states whenever any vehicle is stopped to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass the stopped vehicle. Failure to obey this law can result in penalties that include 2 Points on your license, a \$200.00 fine, 15 Days Community Service and Insurance Surcharges.

Pedestrians: New Jersey Statute's 39:4-32 and 39:4-33 pertain to the pedestrian's responsibility when crossing a roadway. Pedestrians **MUST** obey pedestrian signals and use marked crosswalks or unmarked crosswalks at intersections. Every pedestrian upon a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or unmarked crosswalk at an intersection **SHALL** yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway. So remember if you wish to cross the street in the middle of a block with no marked crosswalk you **DO NOT** have the right of way. No pedestrian shall leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield or stop.

Some safety tips to remember when crossing a roadway are, always try to cross at marked crosswalks or unmarked crosswalks at intersections, make your intention to cross known to motorists by making eye contact with the driver and making sure they see you, walk on sidewalks or paths and always continue to look for vehicles while crossing. Remember just because you are crossing in a marked or unmarked crosswalk and you see a vehicle it doesn't mean the driver of the vehicle sees you.

Cyclists: State Statute 39:4-14.1 states, every person riding a bicycle upon a roadway shall be granted all of the rights and shall be subject to all of the duties applicable to the driver of a motor vehicle. Regulations applicable to bicycles shall apply whenever a bicycle is operated upon any highway or upon any path set aside for the exclusive use of bicycles. That means that a lot of the same laws that apply to motorists apply to cyclists including but not limited to stopping for pedestrians in marked crosswalks and yielding to pedestrians in unmarked crosswalks at intersections. Some other laws cyclists must follow are anyone under the age of 17 **MUST** wear a helmet, they must keep right while riding upon a roadway without a marked bike path, they must stop at red lights and stop signs, they must have an audible signal on their bike and if riding at night every bicycle shall be equipped with a lamp on the front that emits a white light and a lamp on the rear that emits a red light.

If motorists, pedestrians and cyclists follow some of these simple rules it will make our roadways safer for everyone. Remember everyone must do their part so we can accomplish our goal of "No Fatalities". If you have any questions or comments you can contact the Atlantic Highlands Police Department at 732-291-1212 and ask for the Traffic Safety Division.

2015 Mayor's Ball was a Great Bet

The Eighth Annual Mayor's Ball was held October 9th at the Shore Casino. In 2008, Mayor Frederick Rast III launched The AHCEC as a non-political effort to raise funds for community organizations. To date, the Committee has donated over \$120,000.00 to local groups. The Committee expects to make a sizable donation to the Atlantic Highland's Fire Department this year.

About the Fire Department...

The Atlantic Highlands Fire Department has responded to 160 calls for service year to date. Since the last issue, we responded to numerous water rescue calls, three structural fires, including one on mutual aid to Aberdeen Township.

The Atlantic Highlands Emergency Services Building hosted a weeks long training session for the 21st Civil Support Team of NJ in September. The team of highly trained Hazmat Specialists invited the AHFD and surrounding towns to a training drill to review each other's equipment. The AHFD is one of a few departments in Monmouth County to house a specialized trailer for mass decontamination, organized through the Monmouth County Fire Marshal's Office and The Department of Homeland Security.

The last few weeks the Atlantic Highlands Fire Department has been busy on the drill ground... sharpening the skills that most hope they never have to use.

The Fire Department would like to thank all of the supporters that attended and contributed to the annual Mayor's Ball in October. It is greatly appreciated to be the recipient of this year's ball. Those funds will be used entirely to purchase specialized fire fighting equipment.

As 2015 comes to a close, Fire Chief Tim Gaffey and Deputy Chief Patrick Mc Graner would like to thank the line officers & members of the Fire Department as well as the residents of Atlantic Highlands for their continued support.

We are **ALWAYS** looking to expand our membership. Training is provided free of charge, and applications are available at Borough Hall.

Monmouth County Fire Prevention Inspector of the Year



Congratulations Paul - The Monmouth County Fire Prevention & Protection Association named Paul Murphy the Monmouth County Fire Prevention Inspector of the year.

Paul is a deputy fire marshal in the AH fire department.

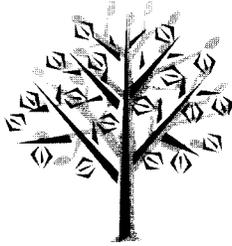
BORO SERVICES ROCK!

Help Needed

TREE-WATERERS NEEDED

It is critical for the health of the newly-planted trees that they receive sufficient water. So, the Shade Tree Commission is looking for volunteers, as individuals or groups, to adopt one or more trees. If you, your family, your business, or your organization, would like to adopt a tree to water, please email AHShadeTree@gmail.com. The Shade Tree Commission also asks residents to remember not only to water their own trees, but also to adopt a town tree near them to be watered. The very dry spring and equally dry summer has caused parched conditions for our trees.

Please help!



Let it snow! Let it Snow!

Let it Snow!

It's almost impossible with the weather we have been experiencing this fall to wrap our minds around snow or even consider snow removal. But the time is coming.

Here's the law governing snow removal... the owner of every lot fronting on any street, highway or public place within the AH limits shall within 24 hours after the snow/ice stops, clean the snow or ice from the sidewalk.

The Boro requests that when business owners make paths from the sidewalk into the street, they put all snow at the curb rather than throw it into the street.

Thank you Canine Company

The Atlantic Highlands Fire Marshals Office announced the recent acquisition of a set of pet oxygen masks made possible thru the efforts of Canine Company and Invisible

Fence Brand. The donated life saving equip.m.ent can be used by first responders to help resuscitate any dog or cat that maybe a victim in a fire situation. The Fire Marshals office is extremely thankful to the Canine Company for their efforts in providing animal safety. Questions or comments about the equip.m.ent can be directed to the Fire Marshal's office at 732-291-1444 ext 3606 or via email to Deputy Fire Marshal Paul Murphy at Murphy@ahnj.com. Canine Company can be reached at CanineCompany.com



Over two hundred brave souls arrived in the normally peaceful seaside village of Atlantic Highlands to take part in the first ever Haunted Ghost Walking Tour along the town's historic First Avenue. During last weekend's fundraiser for the Atlantic Highlands Arts Council, more than twenty groups were led on nighttime tours to uncover long hidden secret passages, discover the town's past and seek paranormal activity alleged to take place in some of its businesses.

According to some visitors, strange occurrences did, in fact, occur during the tour. "We were having a seance in the back of Vintage Variety when one man, over six feet tall and built like a football player, yelled like a little girl when a table next to him moved. He said, 'I swear that wasn't me — it moved by itself!'" relayed witness, Donna Kenney.

Other guests of the tour were slack-

jawed when led into the basement of the Memphis Pig Out BBQ restaurant and shown the long forgotten tunnel used by mobster Vito Genovese to smuggle illegal booze into New Jersey. "It's a part of our history that I'm happy to share with our guests for a worthy cause," said owner Connie Strassburg. The basement didn't just have ghost-hunting tourists in its space last weekend, it has a regular resident, too: "We call him Bubba; he seems like an okay fella except for knocking stuff over once in awhile and making some noise," added Strassburg, "we wonder if it's the spirit of one of Vito's henchmen." Some claimed that additional ghostly activity occurred at The Painted Frame, where owner Robert O' Connor wondered if William Fox, "...the man who built the original Fox Haus on this site in 1905," might be the spirit behind the unusual creaks he hears while at work.

Meanwhile, at the A.J. Dillon gallery, guests were shown unusual, naturally occurring rock formations on the basement walls—one in the shape of a handgun. Interestingly,



it should be noted that the gallery was formerly a gun shop.

Kunya, owner of the Kunya Siam restaurant, built an elaborate outdoor set depicting an ancient Thai tale of horror said, "This is a fun event for the community and it was important for me to get involved."

Over fifty volunteers helped in staging the Ghost Hunt, "Seeing all the moms and dads out here working with their kids, having fun together and showing them how volunteering for a good cause is what it's all about for me," said Jon Crowley, event creator, "showcasing our history, businesses and non profit groups is a great reason to bring our town together."

As they say, "A good time was had by all!" and we raised \$640 dollars for the Atlantic Highlands Art Council.

Street Decorations

A very special thank you to the Beautification and the Community Events Committees for the festive Christmas lights lining First Avenue. These hard workers raise money to decorate our streets every year and are making plans to string lights and garland on Edwards Way and Boro Hall. Your donations could help beautify our town. Contact Cindy Fligor for more information (salonat68@verizon.net)

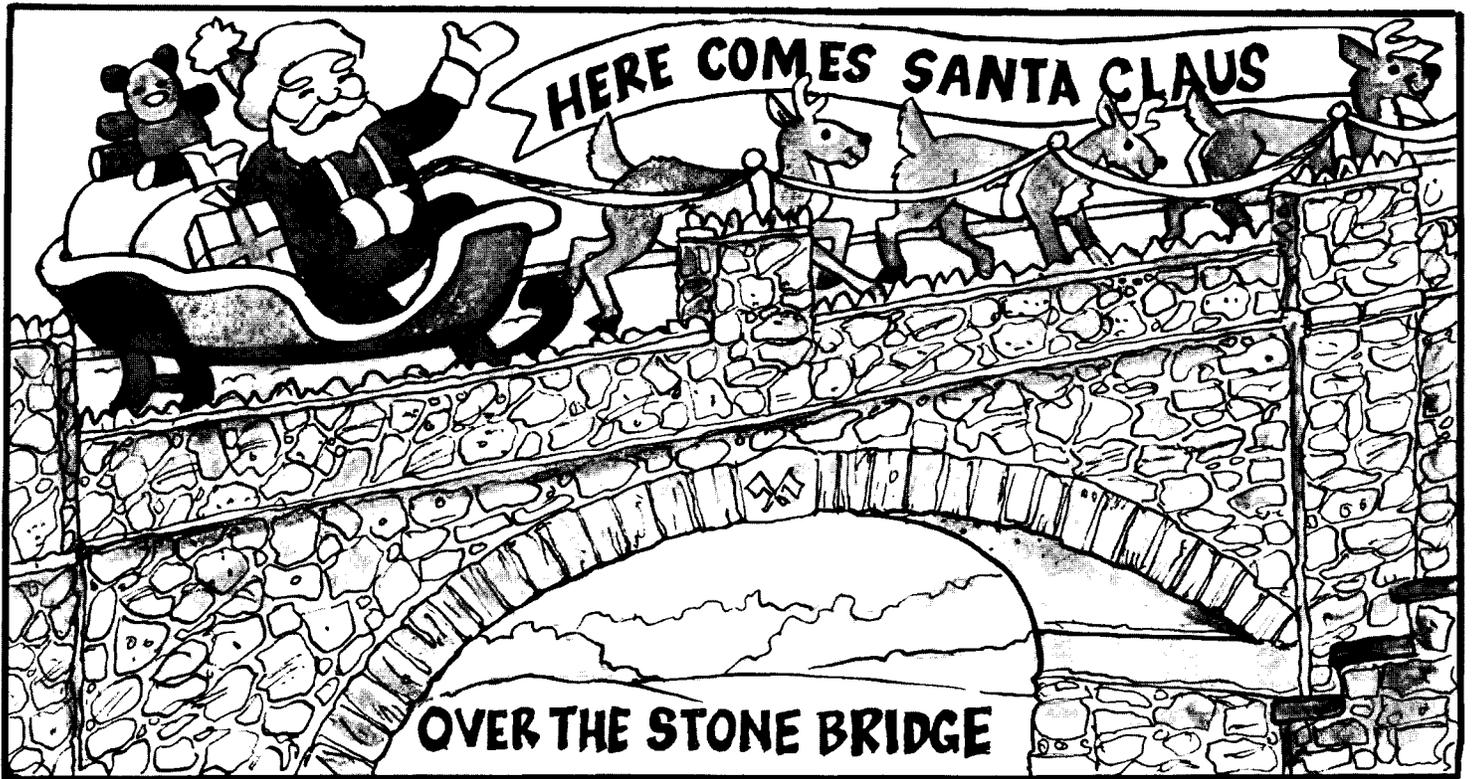


Illustration by David Bryne

Santa Claus is Coming to Town

Planning is underway at the Atlantic Highlands First Aid & Safety Squad for the kick off of the organization's annual holiday Santa Runs throughout the borough.

Members at the AHFAS are preparing for the December 7 launch of the Santa Runs, in which the AHFAS assists Santa in his travels throughout the borough.

This year, the Santa Runs begin December 7 and will run through December 10, with December 11 set aside as a makeup for inclement weather. Each night, starting at 6 p.m., Santa and his team of specially trained elves from the Atlantic Highlands First Aid Squad will visit one part of town until 9 p.m.

The AHFAS will also continue its tradition of building a food drive into these nights. Since starting the food drive, the AHFAS has collected thousands of non-perishable food items, which are then donated to the local food pantry.

As with previous years, residents will be able to track where Santa will be each night by following the squad on Twitter at www.twitter.com/ahfirstaid, on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ahfirstaid or by visiting the squad's website at www.ahfirstaid.org. A map highlighting which area of town the squad will visit each night will be posted and Santa

and his team will provide real-time updates via social media.

Anyone with special needs or those who want to check on where Santa is headed can call the AHFAS' non-emergency number (732) 291-8118 before 6 p.m. each night.



Gift Ideas

The Worship & Spiritual Life Committee of the First Presbyterian Church of Atlantic Highlands is asking that grocery store gift cards be purchased and placed on the church's Christmas Giving Tree for donation to the needy.

The cards are to be placed in red envelopes, provided by the committee, starting on November 29 and running through Sunday, Dec. 20. Once collected they will be given to the Atlantic Highlands Food Pantry, which will distribute them to needy area families

They are celebrating the church's 125th anniversary this year by supporting the

Food Pantry. Members and friends are urged to donate non-perishable food stuffs on a regular basis.

The food pantry is operated by the Area Association of Community Churches (AAC). Donors are asked to drop off items in our church's entrance Narthex.

THE ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS HISTORICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

Henry Hudson Regional
A CAPELLA
CHOIR

Directed by Jeff Parr

WED. 16 DECEMBER

7:30 PM

festive music for the holiday season

at the
STRAUSS MANSION MUSEUM
27 PROSPECT CIRCLE
Atlantic Highlands, New Jersey

FREE

Please check our website, Facebook page or call for all updates.
732.291.1861 • www.ahhsociety.org • ahhsociety@ahhsociety.org

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas!

The Atlantic Highlands Christmas Tree Sale sponsored by the Community Events Committee is going on now in Veteran's Park across from Borough Hall. The Tree Lot is opened 7 days a week from 4 p.m. – 8 p.m.



Monday through Friday and 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday, while inventory lasts. Stop in and check out our large selection of Premium Douglas, Balsam and Fraser Firs. We have all shapes and sizes from 4ft Frasers up to our 12ft Balsams. Need a wreath or roping? We have that, too. You can pick out a decorated or non-decorated wreath in sizes 12", 16", and 24". Proceeds from the holiday sale go to support our town groups. This event is always a sell out, so shop early!

Visit downtown
Atlantic Highlands
this Holiday Season

- Boutiques**
- Galleries**
- Restaurants**
- Theaters**
- Gift Certificates**

Visit our website for a list of our members and upcoming events

Happy Holidays to All!

Atlantic Highlands Chamber of Commerce
atlantichighlands.org

Put a freeze in Holiday Fires

It's fun to decorate for the winter holidays, but holiday decorations can increase your risk for a home fire. As you deck the halls this season, be fire smart. Here are suggestions from the deputy Fire Marshal, Paul Murphy.

- Connect no more than 3 strands of mini lights.
- Connect no more than 50 bulbs for screw in light sets
- Keep candles at least 12 inches away from anything that burns. 2 out of 5 home

decoration fires are started by candles

- Although live Christmas tree fires are not common, when they do occur, they are dangerous. On average, 1 of every 40 Christmas tree fires results in death.
- Get rid of your tree after Christmas or when it is dry.

THINK BIG SHOP SMALL

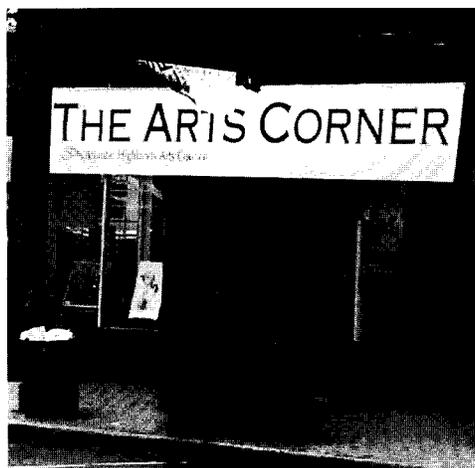
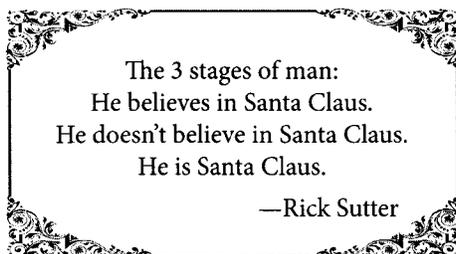


Solve the gift-giving mystery with this

Friends of the Atlantic Highlands Library Holiday Gift Offer

For only \$35 give the gift of a membership to the Friends of the Library and receive a bonus: Book a Day desk calendar

For more information:
ahfriendsofthelibrary@gmail.com



Check out the Arts Corner for handmade gifts!



Another gift idea...

The borough Shade Tree Commission is inviting donations to a special "Trees for Tomorrow Fund" to be used to plant trees throughout town in tribute to relatives, friends and worthy residents, past and present.

Among the first projects to be underwritten by the fund is a line of trees planned along the section of West avenue known as Hennessey boulevard between Center and W. Highland avenues.

Donations are tax deductible and will be used specifically for trees which will serve as lasting tributes.

"Trees are a wonderful way to honor and recognize friends and loved ones while contributing to the health and well-being of the whole community," according to Louise Donoghue, commission co-chairman.

"I urge you to celebrate a special occasion such as a birthday, wedding, anniversary, graduation or the life of a loved one with a gift that will last for decades," Mrs. Donoghue said. "In addition to a commemorative card to the person of your choosing, your gift will be recognized on our website as well as our Facebook page."

Donations may be made in any amount.

Application forms are available at Borough Hall. Checks should be made out to the A.H. Shade Tree Commission and sent to 100 First Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716.



Brian Dougherty (<http://bridoc.com/>), a professional singer from Atlantic Highlands, will be performing as the tenor soloist with the Monmouth Civic Chorus at their holiday concert "Joy to the World" on Sunday December 20th at the Count Basie Theater.

December

Nov 29 till sold out Atlantic Highlands Christmas Tree Sale 4-8 p.m. sponsored by the Community Events Committee. Veterans Park. Dec 5 **Tree Lighting** Borough Hall 4:00

Current - Dec 14 **Toy Drive 2015** Under My Skin for Life Foundation founded by Tattoo Tony Rodriquez will be collecting toys and money for toys to benefit the children at Unterberg Children's Hospital at Monmouth Medical Center. For more information: undermyskinforlife@gmail.com

Current - Jan 3 "**The Nutcracker**" Join Clara and her friends in the classic tale as the Nutcracker Prince comes to life and takes her on a holiday journey to fantasy and romance. An interactive pre-show begins the performance and afterwards the audience is invited to see behind the scenes and to ask questions. Saturdays at 2:30; 1st & 4th Sunday of each month 2:30. Located inside First Avenue Playhouse. 732 775-0290 for reservations. \$10.

Dec 4-19 - **The 13 Days of Christmas** A young woman suddenly finds herself receiving gifts from the song "the twelve days of Christmas." First Avenue Playhouse www.firstavenueplayhouse.com

Dec 5 - **Tree Lighting** 4 p.m. Borough Hall

Dec 5 - **AHES Holiday Shop** 10-2 p.m. Come shop for all your holiday needs and support The A.H.E.S. PTO. There will be something for everyone on your shopping list including jewelry, toys, decorations and hand-made gifts. Additionally, there will be live entertainment, food, face painting - and even a visit from Santa! Atlantic Highlands Elementary School.

Dec 5 - **Cookie House Tour** 5:30 - 8:30 p.m. hosted by the Women's Group of the United Methodist Churches of Navesink and Atlantic Highlands.

Get ideas for your own home when you tour the 6 featured homes and the Navesink United Methodist Church all decorated in their holiday finest. Each ticket holder will also receive a box of home made cookies made with love by Church members.

Tour begins at the Atlantic Highlands United Methodist Church at 96 Third Avenue. For tickets call tour chairman Carolyn Halleran 732-787-9112. Tickets are \$15 and must be purchased in advance before November 29th. Children 12 yrs. and older are welcome on the tour.

The tour begins at the Atlantic Highlands United Methodist Church located at 96 Third Avenue, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. Ticket holders can pick up a box of homemade cookies and the House Tour map between 5:00 and 5:30.

Dec 5 - **Photography Exhibition - Debora S. Bruno** Opening reception 2-5p.m.. Exhibition on display until Dec 31. Atlantic Highlands Library

Dec 10 - **An Evening of Live Jazz with the EZ Jazz Trio** 7 p.m. Bring a dish or a drink to share.

Strauss Museum.

Dec 10 - **Chamber of Commerce Holiday Party** 5:30 Beacon Hill Country Club Reservation: 732-872-8711 The event will benefit hospitalized and homeless veterans in New Jersey. It is requested that guests bring a non-perishable food donation to support the local Food Pantry - pet food will also be accepted. The Chamber welcomes members and non-members alike to attend.

Dec 11 - **AHES Holiday Fundraiser** at Barnes & Noble Holmdel 4:30 - 8p.m..

Paul Czajak will be doing a reading of his book "Monster Needs a Christmas Tree". The AHES Chorus will be performing and the night will end with a reading of the Polar Express. Join the PTO for this fun event and shop for a good cause!

Dec 12 - **Annual Holiday Show Chorus of the Atlantic (with Allan Dean)** 2 p.m. Ocean Township High School Auditorium. West Park Avenue Oakhurst.

Dec 16 - **Festive Music for the Holiday Season** 7:30 Henry Hudson A Capella Choir at the Strauss Museum Free.

Dec 17 - **The Dead Beat Poets Society** 7p.m. Celebrate the 150th anniversary of the publication of Alice in Wonderland by Lewis Carroll by reading the poetry from the book. Join the Mad Hatter Tea Party. Tea and cake will be provided. Bring a hat!

Dec 19 - **Christmas Caroling in Veteran's Park** 7-8 p.m. Join Central Baptist Church as the sing your favorite Christmas carols while enjoying the beautiful decorations of First Avenue. Hot cider and hot chocolate will be provided! Free.

Dec 20 - **Joy To The World Holiday Concert** 4-6 p.m. Monmouth Civic Chorus featuring Brian Dougherty of Atlantic Highlands as tenor soloist. Count Basie Theater. <http://www.countbasietheatre.org/calendar/show/show.asp?id=43250190>

Dec 24 - **Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship Service** 7:30 - 8:30 Celebrate Christ's birth with a cantata from the choir, musical selections from the children and instrumentalists, and a homily from Pastor George. The service will conclude with everyone circling the church and singing "Silent Night" by candlelight. All are welcome and childcare is provided for infants and toddlers.

Dec 31 - **"Harvey" New Years Eve** celebration performance. The special price for this event will be \$50. The complete package includes wine and cheese with dancing on the stage and a champagne toast at midnight. The festivities will begin at 7:30 with the performance of our production of "Harvey". First Avenue Playhouse. 732-291-7552 for reservations.

January

Jan 1 - **Borough Reorganization Meeting** 12 noon Borough Hall.

Jan 31 - Last Day to Register Dogs

Email your calendar events to newsletter@ahnj.com

ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS LIBRARY CLUBS

COMING ATTRACTIONS AT THE LIBRARY

- The Dead Beat Poets Society -
December 17: We're celebrating the 150th anniversary of the publication of *Alice in Wonderland* by Lewis Carroll by reading the poetry from the book. We're also having a Mad Hatter Tea Party. Tea and cake will be provided. Bring a hat!
January 21: Ogden Nash
February 18: Poetry by James Joyce
- Evening Book Club -
December 3: *The Lowland* by Jhumpa Lahiri
January 28: *Snow Flower and the Secret Fan* by Lisa See
February 25: *Year of Wonders* by Geraldine Brooks

Book Lovers Discussion Group SCHEDULE FOR 2016

- January 21 - *Cleopatra* by Stacy Schiff (NF)
 - February 18 - *The Enchantress of Florence* by Salman Rushdie
 - March 17 - *The Vanishing Act of Esmé Lennox* by Maggie O'Farrell
 - April 21- *The Light Between Oceans* by M.L. Stedman
 - May 19 - *Everything I Never Told You* by Celeste Ng
 - June 16 - *Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil* by John Berendt (NF)
 - July 21 - *The Roundhouse* by Louise Erdrich
 - August 18 - *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles
 - September 15 - *Go Tell it on the Mountain* by James Baldwin
- Look for our flyer at the library for information on each month's selection, and unless otherwise posted. The Book Lovers Discussion Group meets on the third Thursday of each month for brunch at 10:00 a.m. at local restaurants.

Other Library events

- Ocean Patterns Knitting Class will meet in December on the following days: Saturday, December 12 and Monday, December 14 - both classes will meet at 10:00 a.m.. Open to all: Adults, Teens, and Children. Please bring medium needles and medium yarn (knitting worsted) to class.
- Computer Classes for Beginners - Coming in 2016 - Please contact the Library for further information - 732-291-1956.

BOROUGH CODE

§300-14

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

PURPOSE:

To establish requirements for the proper handling of yard waste in the Borough of Atlantic Highlands, so as to protect public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for the failure to comply.

YARD WASTE COLLECTION

Sweeping, raking, blowing or otherwise placing yard waste that is not containerized, at the curb or along the street is only allowed during the five (5) days prior to a scheduled and announced collection, and shall not be placed closer than 10 feet from any storm drain inlet. Placement of such yard waste at the curb or along the street at any other time or in any other manner is a violation of this ordinance. The blowing of grass clippings into the general roadway is a violation of this ordinance. If such placement of yard waste occurs, the party responsible for placement of the yard waste must remove the yard waste from the street or said party shall be deemed in violation of the Borough Code.

For more information and to view the zone maps go to www.ahnj.com



Under My Skin For Life Foundation Inc.
Toy Drive 2015
 For The Children of
 The Unterberg Children's Hospital
 at Monmouth Medical Center
 Barnabas Health
Nov. 2 to Dec. 14 2015
 We will be collecting donations
 at certain drop off points. You can find
 drop off points on our website
www.undermyskinforlife.org
 if you can't make it to a drop off and want to
 help you can mail your toys to:
 UMSH, 73 Memorial Pkwy Atlantic Highlands NJ
 07716
Happy Holidays
 From all of us at
 U.M.S.F.L.

ZONE DESIGNATION BY STREETS

ZONE 1

Ballinswood Rd.
 Bayside Dr.
 Belvidere Rd.
 Bonnie Brae Path
 Cameron Circle
 Eyrie Rd.
 Fifth Ave
 Fourth Ave
 Gawen Rd
 Highland Place
 Hill Rd
 Hillside
 Hilton Rd
 Hook Harbor Rd
 Lawrie Rd
 Ocean Blvd
 Prospect Rd
 Scenic Ct
 Scars Landing
 Second Ave
 Sixth Ave

Third Ave- Between Highland Ave
 & Ocean Blvd

ZONE 2

Asbury Ave.
 Columbia Ave.
 East Ave
 Grand Ave
 Hudson Ave
 King James Ct
 King James Lane
 Many Mind Ave
 Memorial Pkwy
 Navesink Ave
 Portland Point
 Sears Ave
 Simpson Ave
 Townsend Ct
 Wesley Ave

ZONE 3

Avenue A
 Avenue B
 Avenue C
 Avenue D
 Bay Ave
 Bowne Ave
 Center Ave
 Harbor View Dr
 Kennedy Ct
 Leonard Ave
 Rail Road Ave
 South Ave
 W. Highland Ave
 W. Washington Ave
 W. Garfield Ave
 Hennessey Blvd.
 West Ave

Third Ave - Between Highland Ave
 & Memorial Pkwy

ZONE 4

Auditorium Dr.
 Beverout Pl.
 Central Ave.
 Chapin Ave
 E. Garfield Ave
 E. Highland Ave.
 E. Lincoln Ave
 E. Mount Ave
 E. Washington Ave
 Eighth Ave
 Hooper Ave
 Keystone Dr
 North Ave
 Observatory Pl
 Prospect Circle
 Ridge Rd
 Seventh Ave

Christmas Trees will be collected from
 January 4, 2016 - January 15, 2016
 The Borough Yard will be open SUNDAYS
 FROM 9:00 AM TO 1:00 NOON,
 Beginning November 8 - December 13, so
 residents may drop off leaves and brush.
**NO OTHER MATERIALS WILL BE
 ACCEPTED.**

A current New Jersey's driver's license, with a valid Borough of Atlantic Highlands street address must be presented, for access to the Borough Yard.

(Landscaping companies, residents of surrounding neighborhoods or PO boxes with 07716 zip codes will not be permitted to enter the Yard.)

Brush and leaves will be picked up during these periods **ONLY!** Please make sure that all leaves and brush are put at the curb, ready for pick up, by the **FIRST pick-up day for your zone.** If you miss your zone's pick up, you **may not** put leaves out until 5 days prior to your next scheduled pick-up. Please do not mix grass clippings in with any brush or leaves. Please do not bag your leaves [except residents along Memorial Pkwy].

NO OTHER PICK-UPS WILL BE SCHEDULED

"Once again, we come to the Holiday Season, a deeply religious time that each of us observes, in his own way, by going to the mall of his choice."
 - Dave Barry

2015 FALL BRUSH & LEAF PICK UP SCHEDULE

| ZONE | Pick Up # | Dates |
|------|------------|-------------------|
| 4 | Leaves - 2 | Dec. 7 - Dec. 11 |
| 3 | Leaves - 2 | Dec. 14 - Dec. 18 |
| 2 | Leaves - 2 | Dec. 21 - Dec. 24 |
| 1 | Leaves - 2 | Dec. 28 - Dec. 31 |



PRSR STD
ECR WSS
U.S. Postage
PAID
Red Bank
New Jersey 07701
Permit No. 385

POSTAL PATRON
Atlantic Highlands
New Jersey, 07716

*Very Best Wishes for
a Healthy and Happy New Year*

Dear Santa,
Please give me a big fat
bank account and a
slim body.
Please don't mix those
up like you did last year!
Merry Christmas,
Connie

MUSIC AT THE MANSION
Thursday, December 10, 2015 - 7:30 pm
**an evening
of live jazz**
hosted by Audra Mariel
**the ez
jazz trio**
\$15. Bring a dish or drink to share.
The Atlantic Highlands Historical Society
27 Prospect Circle Atlantic Highlands NJ • www.aahistory.org
Reserved seating available by advance purchase online